

INTERNATIONAL GUarc a

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

Sale of the century that never was SERE

Return of Cam Mack and Martin Guerre

I le come bac

Society

Life on the edge in Burkina Faso

G2 pages 10/11

Communication problems may have led to tragedy

350 die as jets collide to subvert

World's worst mid-air crash

Suzanne Gold in New Deihi

NDIA'S government dicial inquiry last night after a Saudi jumbo jet and a Kazakh airliner and a Kazakh airliner were destroyed in a mid-air collision, 50 miles south-west of New Delhi, killing all 351 passengers and crew aboard the two planes. It was the worst mid-air

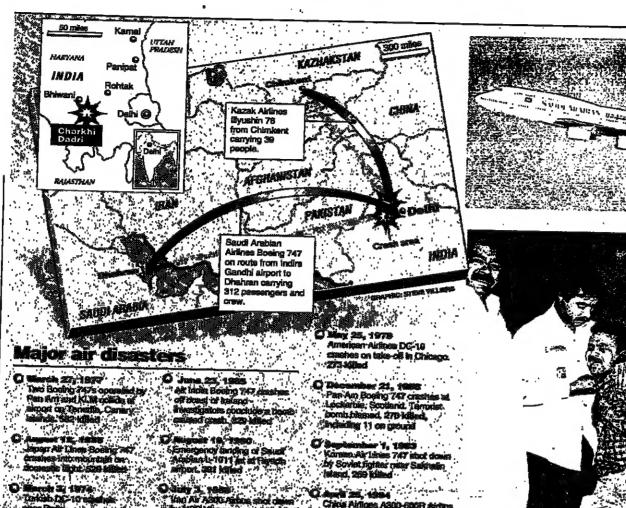
crash in aviation history, and the third worst air disaster. As Saudi crash experts made their way to India, investiga tors were focusing on possible communication problems be-tween the Kazakh pilot and Delhi air traffic control, or equipment fallure.

The collision between the Saudi Boeing 747, carrying 312 people, and the Kazakh Ilyushin 76 charter flight with 39 aboard, occurred over flat farmlands in the northern state of Haryana. Although night had fallen, the skies were clear. One Briton was reportedly aboard the jumbo.

The Saudi airliner had left New Delhi's Indira Gandhi in ternational airport bound for Dhahran and Jeddah only seven minutes earlier, when it crashed into the other plane arriving from Chimkent in

Indian aviation experts said that pilots from the former Soviet Union have always had problems in understanding instructions given in English In recent years, pilots from the former Soviet republics have been flying to New Delhi in greater numbers — new airlines using old aircraft as they compete for the lower end of the market,

it was very rare for a Boeing, marked in the metric system, which is equipped with the and there could be a possibillatest navigational aids, to ity of wrong data setting and



make a mistake on take-off.

H. S. Khola, the director of civil aviation, said air controllers had ordered the Saudi trollers had ordered the Saudi plane to climb to 14,000ft, and the Kazakh aircraft to descend to 15,000ft, when disaster struck. "At 18.33 the

[Saudi] aircraft was airborne and about 18.40 the contact was lost, about seven minutes after take-off." he said The secretary-general of the Indian air traffic controllers' guild said the Kazakh aircraft

could have been flying at a height lower than 15,000ft. "Russian aircraft normally Air traffic controllers said have cockpit equipment

miles, was seen by several people, including the pilots of a United States air force plane carrying supplies to the US embassy in New Delhi. "We noticed out of our right-hand a large cloud lit-up

with an orange glow," one pilot said. The glow increased in intensity, and then they "saw two fireballs."

A building contractor, Rao Singh, said: "I saw a fireball and big black smoke, about three or four kilometers [two miles] from my house, falling into the fields. The sky was

get under way after daybreak today, but the Indian air force has sent helicopters equipped with night sights to the area Police have cordoned off the crash site and posted guards over the belongings of the

among the wreckage.

About 275 bodies, many charred and still burning, have been recovered. The Press Trust of India reported that a few people had survived the impact but died before reaching hospital. fore reaching hospital.

In New Delhi terrified relatives descended on the airport, seeking information, forcing the delay of flights.

Many of the passengers on large will help investigations.

The real rescue work will the Saudi airliner were In- However, the recriminations at under way after daybreak dian labourers returning to started within hours. their jobs after spending the Indira Gandhi airport has a festive season in India Yes-terday was Diwali, the most relatively good safety record, but more foreign investors coming to Delhi, along with a fire last month which comjoyous day on the Hindu calendar.

Apart from 18 crew, there dead, which were strewn were two Americans and one Briton and 13 people from other Asian countries aboard the Saudi jumbo, although the identities of 42 transit passen-

C. M. Ibrahim, last night ordered a judicial inquiry into the disaster - the worst in Indian aviation history.

The air traffic controllers' gers were unclear. The civil aviation minister,

union, which called off a strike just hours before the disaster, blamed the crash on the use of a single arrival and port, which directs all traffic along a narrow corridor.

pletely gutted the Airbus de-

parture terminal at the do-mestic airport, some miles

away, have increased air

Whips 'tried Hamilton investigation'

HE Government was accused last night of an organised attempt to subvert the first investigation into the cash-for-questions scandal which examined former minister Neil Hamilton's undeclared stay at the Ritz Hotel, Paris, and cash payments from Mohamed Al Fayed, owner of Harrods. But MPs investigating the affair yesterday were pre-

vented from pursuing the allegation and went into secret ssion when a new document implicating a second government whip in the scandal was

The document emerged during a two-hour cross-ex-amination of David Willetts. the Paymaster General and former assistant whip, who wrote a memo suggesting Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, the Tory grandee chairing the original investigation, could

original investigation.

Smother its findings.

Dale Campbell Savours,
Labour MP for Workington,
caused a furore last night by

Mr Campbell-Savours told tions about it. that there was a deliberate, very effective effort made by the whips' office — and you were in the whips' office and Andrew Mitchell was in the whips office— to try to influ-ence this inquiry and to use the relationship between a member of that committee who was a whip and a clerk of the House of Commons to feed information to the Chief Whip and ultimately the Prime

Minister." Mr Willetts said: "I'm not prepared to speculate about a note which has just been put in front of me. I do not know | Letters, page 8



its provenance. I don't even

Tony Newton, chairman of the Standards and Privileges Committee which is investigating the scandal, stopped further discussion of the new evidence saying it was not reasonable to question Mr

He told Mr Campbell-Sa-vours: "I'm simply suggestproducing a letter from
Andrew Mitchell, a government whip who sat on the
first inquiry, to Richard
Ryder, the Chief Whip.
Mr Camphell Sarvivs told

wours: "I'm simply suggesting, prompted by the obvious
feeling of some members of
the committee, that it would
be inappropriate to continue
to ask David Willetts ques-

Tory MPs, led by Iain Dun-can Smith, Conservative MP for Chingford, protested after Mr Campbell-Savours produced the letter which he said was part of an "organised pattern" by the Government's whips office — which im-poses party discipline and gathers information — to keep John Major informed about the inquiry.

Mr Newton, Leader of the House, nearly closed the session but eventually won agreement for MPs to discuss turn to page 2, column 8

Priest led Internet paedophile ring

Six years jail for sex abuse of boys

ROMAN Catholic priest who used the Internet to tell paedophiles around the world how he had abused

Father Adrian McLeish used his computer skills to build the biggest collection of child pornography discovered. The material, on four trail led to the West Midlands computers and including and eventually to McLeish at 9,000 lmages, would have filled the 24 volume Encyclopedia Britannia 11 times over.

Necessity of the second secon Detectives told Newcastle upon Tyne crown court that it included the worst material selzed in this country.

Sentencing McLeish, Mr Justice Moses said: "You sexwith a view to indulging your sexual desires. You used your position as a priest to ingrati-ate yourself with their children looked up to you and trusted you." An international police op-

eration starting in America uncovered a network of 37 paedophile contacts on the internet who swapped pornographic images — some of children as young as two -

The 45-year-old priest admitted 12 charges of sexual abuse of boys under 14, eight of possessing and distributing child pornography and two of importing illegal videos. McLeish, who was ordained

abroad describing how he had assaulted four boys and identifying them by name. The case is the first in this support for the families. country with a proven link between pomographic corre-spondence on the Internet and abuse of children. The boys whom McLeish assaulted, now aged 18, 14, 10 and nine, went to the police after the priest's arrest.

McLeish had made contact with the boys through their families' connection with the church and had groomed them for his sexual activities. Beatrice Bolton, prosecut-ing, said the families "all had a liking and trust of McLeish and were happy to let their children stay the night with him - sure the youngsters

were safe in his hands". Outside the court, solicitor Charles McCain, representing three of the families, said: "The children and their fam-ilies have suffered unimaginable harm in the hands of Father McLeish."

Legal aid has been granted to pursue a claim for damages and Mr McCain said he hoped the church would deal with ually abused four young boys, McLeish, who was ordained the civil claims "quickly and damage that has been caused some of whom you groomed 19 years ago, sent e-mail sympathetically to enable the to them."

support for the families.

All the boys were suffering from mood swings and night-mares. Mr Justice Moses said

mares. Mr Justice Moses said one had asthma, eczema, migraine and nightmares and had become sad, uncommunicative and fearful.

McLeish is to be permanently suspended from the priesthood, and on his release from prison will be treated at a climic specialising in near a climic specialising in pys-chiatric help for sexual of-fenders, a church spokesman said last night.

The Rt Rev Ambrose Grif-fiths, the Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle, the diocese

which covers Durham, said in a statement yesterday that he was shocked and disheart-ened by McLeish's betrayal of the trust placed in him. "I apologise unreservedly for what he has done and the great harm he has caused to individual children, their families and the parish of St Joseph's. I sincerely hope we can help those hurt by his actions to recover from the



McLeish entering court: Huge collection of pornography

THEY/WE NEED YOUR HELP Christian Aid is ready to help whichever way the tide of suffering turns in Central Africa. We will be providing emergency shelter, food and water, but with hundreds of thousands of people already displaced much more will be needed. Please give all you can now. Christian Aid has been working in Zaire for fifteen years and we'll stay on after the current crisis to help rebuild. They/we/you are in this together. Call now on: 0345 000 300 I enclose a cheque/PO made payable to Christian Aid for: 2250 _ c100 _ c25 _ c25 _ c1002 _ c252 Come Estiva No. Obituarles 10 Crossword 15; Weather 16; Radio and TV 16 **Christian** Aid

Sport Fore 255 stake Terry O'Calleghan Wort259,000 on an accumulator beton tootball matches, out Corals is refusing to pay out.

We believe in life before death

Hamilton

scandal

spreads

continued from page 1 the letter in secret at the end of the hearing. Later he was

of the hearing, Later he was seen seeking an urgent meet-ing with Alastair Goodlad, the Chief Whip.

The letter to Mr Ryder ap-pears to show that Mr Mitch-ell had used his privileged po-sition to find out from the

stiton to find out from the Registrar of Members' Inter-ests whether Mr Hamilton had logged his consultancy with Strategy Network Inter-national, a public relations company which had strong links with South Africa.

The registrar is reported as saying that he does not think

the committee would like this though "in normal times" it would take "a relaxed view" of the Hamilton case. Mr Mitchell comments to the

Chief Whip: "Not very helpful I am afraid."

Last night government whips admitted that the letter was genuine, leaving the com-

mittee with the problem of whether to call Mr Mitchell to

The hearing came two years after the Guardian reported that Mr Hamilton

and Tim Smith, another min-ister, had received cash from Mr Al Fayed for asking par-

zive evidence.

The Willetts inquiry

Letter points to 'inquiry interference'

Labour MP says whips organised campaign to sway committee

organised campaign by government whips to influence the Commons com mittee looking at the Guard-lan's original allegations against Nell Hamilton, the former Tory Minister, was disclosed by a Labour MP last

night.
Dale Campbell-Savours,MP for Workington, revealed the new evidence — contained in a letter to the then Govern-ment Chief Whip, Richard Ryder — to the Standards and Privileges Committee investigating whether improper

Campbell-Savours repeatedly challenged David Willetts, Paymaster General, to comment on the activities of fellow government whips at the time disclosed by the

correspondence.
"My argument is that the whips organised to ensure that matters being dealt with in the committee were dealt with in a particular way and the whips were not acting objectively in the handling of the Hamilton affair," said Mr

"I am arguing that Mr Wil-letts in my view was one of these whips and he may have been aware of what was in this correspondence and I want to question him about

the letter to Richard Ryder was from Andrew Mitchell, MP for Gedling, a colleague of Mr Willetts in the whips' office at the time.

MPs' register of interests. Mr Mitchell's letter said: "I

a. He does not know what view the Committee [on MPs' Interests] would take. He does not think that they would like it. There is no relevant past decision (case law) for them

to refer back to.
b. However, the Registrar was clear that he was entitled not to register it, especially if mentary activity. In normal times, he thinks the committee would have taken a relaxed view.

read the article in the Independent): 'I can understand his argument. It is not worthless.'"

Mr Campbell-Savours said Then there is a comment of Andrew Mitchell's dated October 24 1994 to the Chief Whip saying. Not very help-ful I am afraid." "Mr Mitchell was a govern-

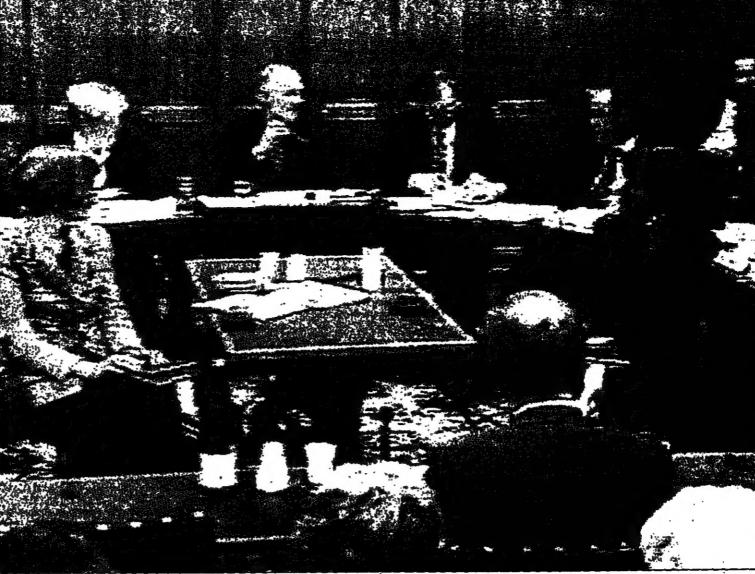
ment whip at this sta was a member on the Members' Interests Committee - a quasi-judicial committee. Do you Mr. Willetts believe it is the kind of letter a whip should be sending to the Chief Whip when he is a member of

Mr Willetts said: "I am not prepared to speculate about a note that has just been put in front of me and other mem bers of the committee have not seen it before either.
"I don't know its prove

Mitchell wrote it or not." He received backing from Tony Newton, the committee chairman, who said it would have been appropriate to give Mr Willetts notice of the

Mr Campbell-Savours said failure to register payments another example of interfer from a PR company in the ence and asking him whether it was right or wrong."

Again Mr Willetts blocked spoke to the Registrar of saying he had not interfered Members' Interests. In confi-



David Willetts (with back to camera) faces the Commons committee at which he was attacked by Labour MP Dale Campbell-Savours

mittee and could not specu-late on other notes which had or had not been written by

"Do you think it is right," persisted Mr Campbell-Savours, "that a government whip who was a member of a quast-judicial committee of the Commons should or could use that committee member-ship, and the relationship It was headed: "Chief he was trying to establish "to that goes with it with the Whip" and referred to an In- what extent did Mr Willetts clerk of that committee, to dependent article of October interfere with the workings of ring up and extract informa-24 1994 about Mr Hamilton's the committee. I am taking tion about another MP without a cor Again Mr Newton inter-

vened before Mr Willetts could say anything and told Mr Campbell-Savours that it

ask the Paymaster General such questions as he had no way of knowing the answers.

Mr Campbell-Savours claimed that at the time of the

allegations against Neil Hamilton in 1994, the chief whip was carrying out detailed in-quiries into the affair and reporting to Michael Heseltine, the deputy prime minisver pitch" over it, he said.
"The flow of information

was from the clerk of the Members' Interests Commit the whips' office, to the chief whip and to the Prime Minis-ter," Mr Campbell-Savours told Mr Willetts "and this is was not reasonable for him to | the background to the writing |

of your memorandum."

The memo referred to by Mr Campbell-Savours ap-peared to indicate that Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, then decisions that were taken

chairman of the committee investigating MPs' behav-iour, wanted advice from the Government on how to deal with complaints about Mr Hamilton, On Monday Mr Willetts denied such an

At this point Mr Newton intervened by saying that it letts on the basis of Andrew Mitchell's note. There should be further discussions about it at another stage. Mr Campbell-Savours said

Mr Mitchell had led the dis- put it to Mr Willetts that the cussion about Neil Hamilton on the Members' interests Committee and most of the

Within that committee there were whips who were trying directly and deliberately to interfere in the Hamilton inquiry," he added. Mr Willetts would have been well aware of what was going on.
"There's a pattern here of intense whip activity both on and off this committee."

paign. "If there's a whips' note saying it will rain and it rains, then that's proof," he told Mr Campbell-Savours. lain Duncan-Smith later

'embellishing" in his original Mr Willetts. "You were imply memorandum might have ing he was open to manipula-tion and influence. That was thous or trying to attract at-tention to his new role as a an appalling libel on Sir Geofwhip. "You may have a point there," Mr Willetts conceded.

rather poorly drafted". Quentin Davies, Tory MP for Stamford and Spaiding, then resumed the line of questioning he had developed on Monday, Mr Willetts, he said,

Later he described it as being

It would be better to say that he had been "inventing" whole phrases in his account of the conversation with Sir liamentary questions.
The story led to the estab-lishment of the inquiry under Lord Noian to examine stan-dards in public life, and a rejuctant reform of parliamentary procedures. "You were traducing Sir Geoffrey," Mr Davies said to

frey if you took what was written at face value." Was it not more plausible that the note was an accurate reflection of the conversation and that Mr Willetts had been prepared to pay the price of lying to this committee" in

order to protect Sir Geoffrey. this committee," Mr Willetts

In successive exchanges with Mr Davies, he denied he was protecting Sir Geoffrey.

Dale Campbell-Savours ~ awkward to the core

THE standard complaint that too many MPs are interested only in becoming ministers would never have applied to Dale Campbell-Savours (right), even if he had not been elected Labour MP for Workington at the start of Labour's long march through the Opposition lob-bies in 1978. From the start of his

strated that puritanical. inquiring Independence which marks an MP down among the whips on both sides as unsuitable for office. Instead, he was destined to join the small but vital band known to colleagues as the Awkward Squad From low level RAF flights

and the Falkiands invasion of the early '80s, through spy rows and environmental battles, running fights over the committee on members

portable phone - by getting | Icelandic wife, Gundrun.



parents, educated at the Sorbonne, he was (rare for Labour) a successful businessman as well as an active Christian. Some Tory MPs found him sanctimonious, but few doubted his sincerity.

BT to check all the numbers dialled. Any MP facing inves-tigation by the new Standards and Privileges Committee must assume that the gan-gling Campbell-Savours will

He has suffered persistent back trouble, with pain and operations, and is also an hereditary victim of glaucoma. This has made him look older than his 53 years, but it has not dulled his year. He lives in

Quentin Davies loud libertarian who failed to win office

WHY did Quentin Davies (right), the Tory MP for super-safe Stamford and Spal-ding, suddenly come out as a serious backbench rebel in 1996, after nine years of decent, loyal obscurity, MPs were asking themselves again

this week.

This time it was his tough cross-examination of David Willetts, the beleaguered postmaster general emeshed in the cash-for-questions row.

Last February he was one of only two Tory MPs to break. ranks over the Scott report on arms sales to Iraq and declare in the tense Commons debate - which the government won by one - that William Waldeon changed export guidelines. Mr Davies, aged 52, urged him to resign to restore min-

isterial accountability.

With his loud, confident voice and his loud, confident pinstripe shirts, he is, as he fray, sometimes conspiratorial, always assiduous.

He even tracked down the window cleaner who stole his Keswick, Cumbria, with his bitious since his Cambridge days, he is widely seen as perslike Mr Willetts dld.



rightwing, but one of the most consistently libertarian MPs, according to an Adam Smith Institute analysis of the 1987-

There was always an independent quirk in his make-up, typical of better-off and better educated Tories. An ardent pro-European, Mr Davies voted against the 1990 War Crimes Bill, supported Michael Heselting's leader Michael Heseltine's le ship claims, yet praised Norman Lamont's budgetary courage weeks before the then Chancellar was sacked in 1993.

in 1993.
Last night Tory colleagues were murmuring that his new membership of the Awkward Squad might reflect a familiar pattern; failure to win office when young whipper-snap-

Andrew Mitchell junior whip who sparked walk-out

LEET Street legend has it that the choleric pundit, Paul Johnson, once announced in El Vino's wine bar that "one of the waiters here is a Tory MP." Actually, Sir David Mitchell, MP for NW Hampshire, was not a waiter but a substantial shareholder in the family wine business.

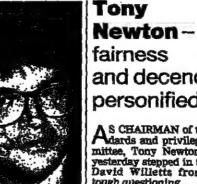
He was also the father of Andrew Mitchell (right), MP for Gedling in Notts since 1987, and a junior social secu-rity minister. Mitchell Jur was mixed up in the drama over the Hamilton affair because, in 1994, he was the junior whip on the old select committee on members' inter-ests, the first whip ever ap-

It led to ructions and a Labour walk-out. But it did Mr Mitchell no harm. His father, now sitting on the new stanter, now sitting on the new standards and privileges com-mittee, has had a solidly respectable career since 1964, risting to minister of state rank in the '80s, serving on countless committees. "Right-wing and loyal." is the thumb-pall description.



From the start young Andrew was destined to be something more, the beneficiary of Rugby School (known as "Thrasher" for his stern line), Sandhurst and Cam-bridge where he was presi-dent of the Union (1978) and the Conservative Association and a contemporary called him "the most overtly-ambitious man I know."

He went on to work for Laards bank, while dabbling in politics as an activist in Labour Islington. He is proprivatisation, pro-hanging and also backed the NHS—bits wife is a doctor—but along the interval



fairness and decency personified

As CHAIRMAN of the stan-dards and privileges com-mittee, Tony Newton (right) yesterday stepped in to shield David Willetts from some tough questioning. But his reputation for fair-

above all being a man "outside the nasty brigade" — means he would have done the same for a Labour MP. That reputation helped secure him the highly-prized chairmanship of a committee where impartiality is

The Leader of the House is above all a safe pair of hands, a highly experienced parliamentarian who rose under Mrs Thatcher to become social security minister and is now well respected on both

his wife is a doctor — Dural along the internal market model.

Still only 40, Mr Mitchell is smooth, polite in a sleek way, assiduous, and full of prospects.

Still only 40, Mr Mitchell is became active politically at Oxford, where he became president of the Oxford Uni-



versity Conservative Association. He spent 14 years in the Conservative Central Office where he perfected his grasp of detail — and was awarded the OBE for his political ser-vices in 1972. He was adopted for the marginal seat of Braintree in Essex in the same year, and won it two years later.

#to

Mr Newton has claimed he is not ambitious and is renowned is now well respected on both sides for his competence and pragmatism. The worst that can be said of him is that he is can be said of him is that he is in humour.

To prove it, sent his two daughters to state schools. His kindness is reflected in a Westmin-The man who once confessed to having always been a Conservative, although he didn't know why, first became active politically at

Profiles by Michael White

and have a good read. You might find your cover just a little bit limited.

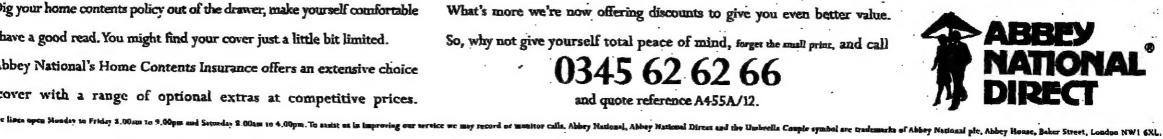
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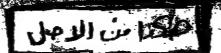
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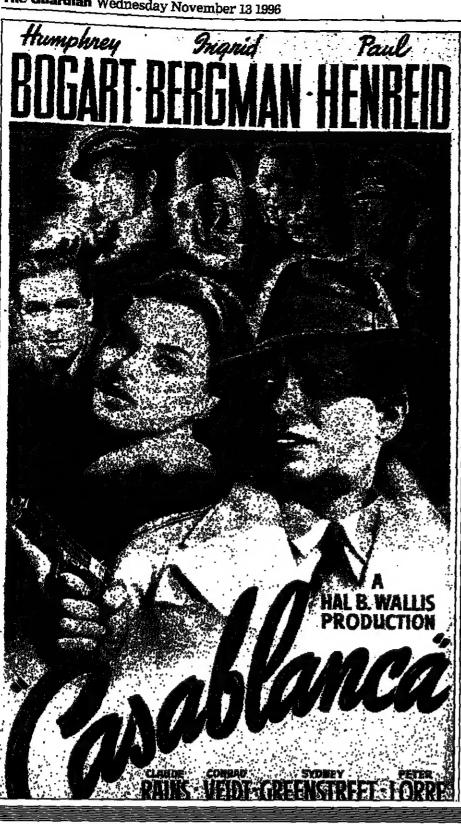
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Posters play it again for film art buffs

Dan Glaister Arts Correspondent

RPORTS of a recovery in the art market may be exaggerated, but a poster for the 1942 film. Casablanca, sold at auction yesterday for £23,000, almost double the estimate

price.
The poster was part of the The poster was part of the Stanley Caidin Collection, named after an American entertainment lawyer. Over 12 years, starting in the mid-1970s, Mr Caidin amassed one of the biggest film poster collections in the world, featuring items from 1800 to the 1870s. from 1900 to the 1970s.
Many of the posters in the sale at Christie's in London had never been at auction. A poster for the 1931 film of Frankenstein starring Boris Karloff sold for £14,950, while one for The Rid (right), made 10 years ear-lier and starring Charlie Chaplin, fetched £13,800. Posters for Bitchcock films were particularly popular, a design by Saul Bass for the 1958 film Vertigo, starring James Stewart and Kim Novak, selling for £1,380. A spokeswoman for the anctioneers said most of

the buyers were private UK collectors. The buyer of the Casablanca poster bought it

It was not until after the first world war that bill-board posters came into their own, using known artists and original designs. Up to that time they had featured an image of a woman holding a card showing film





Tories move to scupper EU 48-hour week law

Michael White, Larry Elliott and John Palmer

OHN Major's ministers moved swiftly to "close a loophole" in the Treaty of Rome and prevent a predicted flood of backdoor social legislation of parkuour social registation after yesterday's European Court ruling enforcing the 48-hour working week.

With mainstream Tories falling into line behind an electioneering campaign against what will be presented as creeping federalism, the Foreign Office tabled treaty amendments in Brussels while Mr Major sent a frosty letter to Jacques Santer, the European Com-Santer, the European Com-mission president, and other

From Strasbourg, Mr Santer gave him an instant brush-off, insisting that the Working Time Directive is flexible enough "not to place unnecessary burdens on busi-ness". Among other mensures, the directive sets the maximum working week at 48 hours, unless unions and em-ployers agree otherwise.

At Westminster MPs of all must be made available to camps were openly suspicious of the Government's and must be made available to might workers. cious of the Government's declared intention to block all other EU reforms until it gets its way — and confused about the legal status of the disputed directive when it comes into force in Britain on Nowamber 22

Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, told MPs there would be widespread consultation before legisla tion to bring Britain into line. if only temporarily. Tony Blair, the Labour leader, pre-dicted that, as with the beef crisis, ministers would "seize on an issue, talk tough, alien-ate everybody, then cave in" - an "escape route" left until after the election.

Mr Lang led claims - hotly denied by pro-Europeans—that yesterday's ruling is the "thin end of the wedge", opening a torrent of social engineering measures. They range from sex discrimination to worker consultation and statutory dismissal pro-cedures — all denounced by ministers as burdensome Asked why the men had to information, and reminding bureaucracy.

break into so many units to them of a £1 million reward. In sharp exchanges with find what they were seeking, for information leading to the the Labour leader in the Commons, the Prime Minister in- decency, page 9

Key points

The maximum working week cannot exceed an av-erage of 48 hours, measured over a four-month reference period. This can be extended by agreements be-tween employers and trade unions to six or 12 months.

U All workers will be entitled to three weeks' paid annual leave, rising to four

weeks in 1999. () Workers will be entitled to a rest period of 11 consec-utive bours in each 24-hour

period. Where the working day is longer than six hour rest break, with details set out in collective agree-

ments or legislation.

In each seven-day period. workers will be entitled to one day's rest, in addition to the 11-hour period set out

□ Normal hours for night workers should not exceed an average of eight in any 24-hour period.

sisted "Britain wants good jobs, not worthless direc-tives" and said he would block the outcome of the Maastricht II review conference until his 14 EU partners gave way — just as he had threatened to block the original 1991 treaty until he got his social chapter opt-out.

As expected, the European Court of Justice upheld the 1993 directive, providing for holidays, maximum working hours and rest periods under health and safety legislation, which Whitehall says inter-prets the scope of the Treaty of Rome far more broadly than originally agreed by

In Brussels, ministers and officials were openly scornful.
They have already postponed
the threatened decisions from next month's EU summit in Dublin to Amsterdam in June, when they hope to be dealing with a Labour

Police fear 'IRA raiders' escaped with explosives

Terror warning after break-in at London storage depot

Duncan Campbell, Crime Correspond

NTT-TERRORIST police are hunting three sus-pected IRA members who are feared to have es-caped with bomb-making nt and firearms after breaking into more than 50 storage units in London.

The storage depot was oppo-site the workplace of IRA sus-pect Diarmuid O'Neill, who was shot dead during a police raid in September, a resident in the road, Richard Fitzpat-

The three men - two of them wearing stocking masks
— overpowered and hand-



A police composite image of one of the IRA suspects

cuffed a security guard at the storage units in Shepherds Bush Place, Hammersmith, west London at 5.40pm last Friday. They disabled the closed circuit television and guarantically ment through systematically went through scribed as aged between 20 55 of the approximately 200 and 25, about five foot 11

himself from his handcuffs and called the police. He was treated for shock and bruis-

ing but was not hospitalised. Police last night warned the public to be vigilant in anticination of further bombines. Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch, said: "There was sufficient evidence left at the

scene for us to calculate that this was the IRA. We have strong grounds to believe that ... possibly bomb-making equipment and firearms may have been the IRA is both anxious to removed from at least one of the storage units. We do not know where that material has formation from members of

the public." The three raiders were described as white and were all wearing latex gloves. The one unmasked man was de-

storage units before making inches tall and powerfully land Yard that the public was had been given information their getaway.

The guard managed to free woolly hat which hid his hair, months". He sought informable knew the approximate location from his handcuffs and a black or very dark that the public was had been given information by a fellow IRA member who knew the approximate location ships and a black or very dark that the public was had been given information by a fellow IRA member who knew the approximate location and a black or very dark that the public was had been given information by a fellow IRA member who knew the approximate location in the sequence of the sequen and a black or very dark loose-fitting car-type coat. Mr Grieve said the suspects loose-fitting car-type coat.

Mr Grieve said the suspects had systematically worked their way through the 55 storage units, and "knew pre-

ation of further bombings.

Commander John Grieve of for". Tests to determine if there were traces of explosives were being carried out. The unit from which the material had been remove had been rented for a considerable time, he said. The audacious break-in

would seem to indicate that step up the mainland bombing campaign and is short of been taken. We need that in- raid is the latest move in the cat-and-mouse game between anti-terorist officers and the IRA's active service units which has seen a series of ar-rests and seizures over the past three months.

Mr Grieve repeated last month's warning from Scot-

The Guardian International Umbrella



he said it was possible they conviction of IRA members.

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Blow to home buyers

Nationwide's mortgage rate rise strains feelgood factor

Teresa Hunter

HE Nationwide Building Society yesterday an-nounced it was raising mortgage rates, putting strain on the resurgent feelgood fac-tor and sparking fears that borrowing costs are now enter-ing an upward swing. Although other major lend-

ers were waiting for the Chancellor's budget later this month before deciding whether to follow the Nationwide's lead, the move is gloomy news for the Govern-ment in the run-up to the gen-

eral election.

Any across-the-board increase is likely to hit the recovery in the housing markets the beautiful from the recovery in the housing markets. ket, which has played a key role in rekindling the feel-good factor. If Kenneth Clarke-cuts taxes in his budget, the pressure will also be towards

the Nationwide, with one million customers, provides one in nine mortgages. It in-

by 0.25 per cent to 6.74 per cent after last month's rise in the bank base lending rate. The rate, which comes into force on December 1, will still undercut the 6.99 per cent typically charged by societies which have become banks.

The new rate will push the monthly cost of a typical 250,000 repayment mortgage up by £6.97, to £326.03.

Other lenders, such as the Halifax and Abbey National, are waiting to see what impact the move will have on the housing market.

A Halifax spokesman said: We need to see how money markets respond to any tax cuts in the budget. It could be that bare rates may rise again - and any new mortgage rate would need to be set in the light of that."

The Halifax adopted a simi-

lar wait-and-see approach when base rates fell before the budget last year - announcing a rate cut immedi-

ately after. The fourth largest lender.

commitment, it cut its rate to 0.5 per cent below the rest of the market giants when it announced a £500 million loyalty package for members. However, its keener rates have made it more vulnerable to the impact of rising money

market costs and reduced its scope to delay increases.

Its chief executive, Brian Davis, admitted he would not have raised mortgage rates without a move from the Chancellor, but said the soci-ety also wanted to be fairer to savers. Six million investors

see their savings rates in-crease by between 0.1 per cent and 0.8 per cent, depending on "We do not believe this will have any impact on the housing market, as interest rates will remain at very low levels historically," Mr Davis said.

The Abbey National, Britain's second biggest mortgage lender, said it had no plans to move mortgage or savings.

move mortgage or savings rates at present, and the Woolwich took a similar line. However, the much smaller Birmingham Midshires last week announced it was rais-

Carey warns of 'bitter harvest' from school expulsions

Madeleine Bunting Religious Affairs Editor

THE Archbishop of Canter-bury warned yesterday that expelling disruptive chil-dren from schools could lead to them taking revenge on society in future. Dr George Carey warned that young males in particular have a way of "biting back in spec-tacular fashion", and pleaded for a considered strategy and sufficient resources to reinte-

grate them.
"If we fail to address with real urgency . . . the vast problems being stored up in the form of angry, disappointed young people who feel that mainstream society has no time or place for them, we shall reap a bitter harvest," Dr Carey told a Society of

central London. -He argued that a minority of disruptive children should not be allowed to wreck school communities, but cited a corre-lation between expulsions and a "subsequent career in delin-

one in nine mortgages. Its increase was the first such move in nearly two years.

Its mortgage rate will rise latery after.

The fourth largest lender, ing its variable mortgage rate the Nationwide is piedged to remaining a building society.

Its mortgage rate will rise latery after.

The fourth largest lender, ing its variable mortgage rate to 7.24 per cent while cutting its savings rates for investors. quency and crime". Theatre can be a bitchy place. At the original first night of Martin Guerre, one actor asked

another: "What do you think?" Back came the

reply: "It's even worse than I'd hoped." Michael Billington

Arts G2 page 8

News in brief

BA must pay £3m to Iraq flight hostages

BRITISH AIRWAYS faces a bill of £3 million after losing a French appeal court case involving compensation for Gulf war hostages. Sixty-one French passengers were among 364 people on board a BA flight from London which landed at Kuwait airport on August 2, 1990 — four hours after Iraq invaded, Iraqi soldiers seized the Boeing 747 and passengers and crew were held hostage for up to three months.

The French nationals won their compensation battle against The French nationals won their compensation battle against BA in a French court last year, with the airline being ordered to pay about £3 million. Yesterday BA, which has always claimed it had no way of knowing the invasion was under way, lost its appeal, with the Paris court confirming the compensation for all but five of the hostages, for whom it made minor

adjustments.
The plaintiffs said BA had committed a "severe error" and demanded compensation for mental anguish. The airline said it found the decision "disappointing" and was considering a further appeal. BA has also denied that a group of SAS commandates the fight. dos was on board the flight.

New child abuse claims

A JOINT police and social services inquiry into the sexual activities of a choirmaster who killed himself the day after being charged with indecency involving a child under 16 has revealed charged with indevency involving a child under 16 has revealed six further allegations against him, it was disclosed yesterday. Suffolk police said in a statement that their investigation into allegations of child abuse against Christopher Barnett, aged 37, from Holton Road, Halesworth, Suffolk, founder and director of

from Holton Road, Halesworth, Suttolk, founder and director of the Wenhaston boys' choir and associated with 18 other similar organisations, had been completed.

The statement said 14 boys were interviewed by child protection officers, and six made allegations of indecency against Mr Barnett. All have been offered counselling.

The new allegations are in addition to the offence Mr Barnett was charged with on September 4 and two other indecency. allegations being investigated by police when he committed suicide by jumping from a bridge over the river Orwell at Ipswich the following day. — Alan Watkins

Asthma victim wins £2.4m

A MAN left totally dependent after suffering brain damage during an asthma attack was awarded £2.397 million compensation yes-terday. The damages will be paid by the Medical Defence Union, which admitted liability on behalf of Graham Langsdale, a retired

Dr Langsdale, who had a practice in Boscombe, Dorset, was called out to Leslie Drake, a trainee electrician, in West Southborne, Bournemouth, in June 1986. Mr Drake was not admitted to hospital until the early hours of the next day when his condition deteriorated sharply. By then it was too late to prevent brain damage caused by oxygen starvation. Mr Drake, a 38-year-old former Royal Marine, needs 24-hour care at the Grafton Manor rehabilitation home in Northampton.

Woman barred from crew

A CAMBRIDGE university woman student has been prevented

from rowing in a college men's first crew.

Jenny Fox, aged 19, is 6ft and 11½ stone, but the Amateur
Rowing Association has ruled that, apart from a few exceptions, racing crews may not be mixed.

Ms Fox, a veterinary student at Robinson College, has been rowing for the women's first eight and was asked to step in when a crew member was injured.

Rosemary Napp, national manager of the Amateur Rowing Association, said: "There is a clear division between men's and women's racing. The issue hasn't come up before because women just weren't up to the same level. But we're looking at changing our rules: there is a discussion that open racing — at the top level should be mixed." - Clare Longrigg

Nursery campaign 'a fraud'

THE Government's £1.9 million advertising campaign to promote nursery vouchers, to be isunched today, is untruthful, misleading and political. David Blunkett, Labour's education spokesman has complained to the Advertising Standards Authority and the Independent Television Commission. More than £1 million has already been spent promoting vouchers in four pilot areas. After Labour complaints that Michael Heseltine, the Deputy

Prime Minister, tried to involve civil servants in a political campaign. Mr Blunkett accused the Government of abusing public information advertising for party political purposes. Vouchers worth £1,100 would land on the doorsteps of families months before a general election, he said. — Donald McLeod

Granada in foreign deal

GRANADA Television yesterday became the first British production company to be commissioned to make drams specifically for the US market. It is to produce a US version of Cracker for ABC. with a US actor in the lead role of criminal the psychologist Fitz, played in Britain by Robbic Coltrane.

Andrea Wonfor, Joint managing director of Granada Productions, said this was the first of a number of international deals. — Andrew Cuif



The clean-up operation after the Sea Empress oil tanker spill in February

Tanker disaster pilot cleared

Paul Brown Environment Correspondent

■HE pilot of the Sea En press oil tanker who was demoted after the disaster at Milford Haven, vesterday won the bettle to clear his name.

At the same time it emerged that rules governing supertanker movements into the harbour have been changed to ban entry in the three hours before low water. The Sea Empress was brought in by pilot John Pearn 14 hours before low tide, and hit the

The inquiry into the disas-

clearing of the pilot leaves of navigation decided by the Milford Haven port authority were correct. The "rule of thumb" applied before the accident was that if there was 10 per cent clearance of water below the keel of the tanker it could enter the harbour channel, said Peter Taylor, deputy

harbourmaster, yesterday. Shadow shipping minister Glenda Jackson said she was concerned at the "rush to judgment" which led to Mr Pearn being charged with in-competence. "This [appeal] decision underlines a growing and disturbing trend of

ter has yet to report, but the | immediately seeking to pass clearing of the pilot leaves | the blame for accidents on to

Mr Pearn's solicitor, Charles Hattersley, said after the appeal: "He is relieved that justice has been done and he can get on with his job. He is a proud, professional pilot and wants all this put behind

him."
Mr Pearn fought the decision of a port disciplinary committee which found him guilty of incompetence after a hearing in June. He was demoted and banned from eniding ships of more than 90,000

Mr Hattersley said: "Mr Pearn regrets the vessel going aground as much as anyone, but these accusations of incompetence were brought against him unfairly. We are now back to the position be-

fore he was charged, with no slur on his record." gued that he had correctly calculated the ship's course, uted to the vessel running

aground. More than 72,000 tonnes of oil poured into the sea when the 147,000 tonne Sea Empress ran aground on rocks near Milford Haven, Pembroke-

Budget to put £150 on council tax

Rebecca Smithers Political Correspondent

OUSEHOLDS face an increase in their council tax of at least £150 under the Government's plans to finance tax cuts in the Budget. The Government has

planned for a substantial above inflation rise in council tax, to offset the reduction in central government grant payable to town halls, Ministers have given nu-

merous strong hints over the past 12 months that they would like to see council tax pay a higher proportion of the cost of local services.

In last year's Budget the Government disclosed that it expected total receipts from council tax to rise by \$3.5 billion over three years—equal to 2p on the standard rate of income tax, and equivalent to the standard rate of income tax, and equivalent tax and alent to just over £150 per Band D property, or some £3 extra per week. This typically represents an average family home in the £68,000-£88,000 price range, in the middle of the A-H band range.

Government sources indi-cated yesterday that in the Budget in two weeks' time a new three-year plan will be given. In the third year, council tax is likely to be forced up year before it rose 5.2 per cent even further by more than the with inflation of 3.3 per cent.

rate of inflation. The rises already pencilled in are because of a freeze in grant aid to town halls, where any in-crease in spending would have to be funded almost exclusively by council tax.

Last year the settlement for local authorities was seen as extremely unsatisfactory. with councils expected to claw back the supposed increased in funding for educa-tion from resources already earmarked for other services.

Yesterday the shadow environment secretary, Frank Dobson, said: "Whether Ken Dobson, said: "Whether Ken Clarke announces tax cuts in his Budget or not, he is certainly planning to force up council tax." Addressing the annual general meeting of the Association of County Councils in Eastbourne, Mr Dobson said: "The Tories may be giving with one hand. They will certainly be taking away with the other. They will with the other. They will force local people to pay more

and get less."
The chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, Sir Jeremy Beecham, warned that "cost shunting for short-term politi-cal advantage would be in no one's long term interest"

This year council tax rose on average 6 per cent, with inflation 2.4 per cent, and the

'Stalker' accuses lecturer of affairs

Sarah Boseley

Awoman student accused of stalking ther former lecturer told the High Court yester-day she had made complaints about him "for the

benefit of womankind". Eileen McLardy, aged 50, a mature student, alleged that Robert Fine, also 50, a sociology lecturer at Warwick university, had made a sexual proposition to her, although she refused to say

Dr Fine is seeking an injunction against Mrs McLardy to prevent her molesting or harassing him or coming within 30 yards of his house in Leamington Spa. He alleges that she has persistently stalked him for two years, and is claiming damages over 140 separate incidents. Mrs McLardy is counter-claiming that the lecturer harassed and as-saulted her.

Ashley Underwood, counsel for Dr Fine, suggested to Mrs McLardy that she had ing affairs with students to wound or punish" him. Would I? He is such a nice fellow." she replied.
She agreed with Mr

Underwood that she had complained about him on

Asked if that was rather a lot to take on, she said: "I don't mind, I am a woman. I

am used to it."

Judge Thompson QC
asked her: "What had he
done?" She replied: "Improper conduct. He had made a sexual proposition

to me."
The judge asked: "What was the proposition?" "It was a sexual proposition, I don't think it is necessary as it has no rele-vance to harassment," she

what it was. She also accused him of having affairs with doctorate harassment was thrown out by the university au-thorities in August 1994. The case continues today.



Elleen McLardy: refused to describe 'proposition'

Farm worker denies murder



Stable girl Jessic Hurlstone, who died under a hail of blows in a caravan last year

Obsession 'drove man to beat stable girl to death with hook'

Geoffrey Gibbs

ing for leading national hunt trainer Richard Frost was beaten to death with an iron hook by an obsessive male friend who could not bear to see her with another man, a court heard yesterday.

Jessie Huristone, aged 27, died under a hall of blows in October last year in the caravan she occupied at Mr Frost's Hawson Stables, near Buckfastleigh, in Devon. It was "a vicious and horrible attack", Exeter crown court

Mr Frost's son Jimmy jockey, said the man had threatened to kill Miss Hurlstone if she had anybody else. Stephen Webber, aged 39, a farm worker, was said to have run around after the woman like a puppy. He denies mur-

Opening the prosecution case, Roderick Denyer QC said Mr Webber had carried out the killing after walking "in the dead of night" across fields from his home half a mile away and breaking into Miss Hurlstone's caravan as she lay in bed.

He had picked up the Iron hook, used for loading silage bales, that was hanging in a barn close to the caravan.



Hawson Stables, in Devon, where Jessie Huristone, aged 27, worked photograph: Paul Slater

stained clothes at home he went to a friend's house in Buckfastleigh to wash and later disposed of the iron bar in a farm slurry pit.

After initially denying the attack, Mr Webber admitted the said. There was a spur of the moment thing". It had been set up in advance and coolly executed the little to relieve the said. There was a spur of the moment thing. It had been set up in advance and coolly executed the little to relieve the said. Miss Huristone had suf- the killing to police, the court only one purpose of taking

that iron bar to that caravan, it was to kill her. He didn't need it to get into the cara-van. The idea Mr Webber took the iron bar to frighten Miss Harlstone is a Mr Denyer said that al-though Mr Webber had been

friendly with Miss Huristone the only evidence of a sexual relationship was what Webber had said about an occasion in 1994. In the summer of the following year he had developed an obsession for her. On the night she died Miss Hurlstone had been out in Buckfastleigh with Jim

Pearce, whom she had be-come friendly with at the beginning of that mouth. She returned to the main house at the stables at around llpm and asked Richard

Frost to walk her to her caravan. Her body was discovered

the following day.
Mr Denyer claimed that Mr
Webber found the idea of Miss Huristone going out with another man very difficult to come to terms with and that he had told police he had followed her home after she had been to Mr Pearce's house one night earlier that week. "He was watching. keeping an eye on Jessie."
Mr Webber said to police that

he told Miss Huristone he had had hit her in temper The trial continues today.

Government defeated in European Court

Four million get extra holiday rights

LMOST 4 million people — just under 20 per cent of employees - will gain atra holiday rights as a result of yesterday's Euro-pean Court judgment against the Government over the working time directive. More than 2 million will get paid leave for the first time.

Rights to three weeks' paid holiday, rising to four weeks in 1999, is the strongest part of the directive — better known for its 48-hour work-ing week limit, which is hedged with exemptions. Holiday entitlement will apply to everyone except transport and fishing workers and junior doctors.

Britain is the only country

in the European Union with-out legal holiday rights and 2.5 million — most of whom are part-timers and women — have no paid holiday. Just over 4 million have less than three weeks' leave and 6 million have less than four weeks. The vast majority of those will benefit from yester-

Both Labour and the TUC yesterday highlighted the holiday element in response to the Government's onslaught on the directive. Brian Wilson, Labour's campaigns spokesman, said it was by far the most important aspect of the directive", adding that the Tories would be "the only party ever to go into a general election on the plat-form of taking away holidays

Working practices

unions determined to press

others, including the Engineering Employers' Federation, which yesterday called for the Government to agree a realistic timetable with the European Commission to "avoid the spectre of years."

Unions are planning to launch a spate of legal actions against the Government and public sector employers after November 23 over the failure to implement the directive, while holding out to employers the cavrut of persisted.

Mr Lang said that the over all cost to industry could be £1.7 to £2 billion — though provisional figures" and the cost could be much less.

cost was put down to the 48-

home their advantage and ex-ploit the November 23 dead-line by which the directive is supposed to have been imple-

Secretary, Ian Lang promised that the Government would now begin consulta-tions with employers about how to do that Some European legal experts argue Brit-ain risks losing its right to some of the "derogations" -notably the restriction of the 48-hour limit to compulsory working — if it fails to meet the deadline.

That is discounted by

"avoid the spectre of vexa-tious, politically motivated cases being brought". The CBI pleaded for "clear guid-ance" from Whitehail.

ers the carrot of negotiated agreements over hours, rest breaks and shift arrange-ments allowed for in the

Only £100 million of the

hour limit, compared with £500 million for the holiday The Government faces a complicated legal and legislative tangle over its defeat in Luxembourg, with trade restrictions.



The company: Filtronic Comtek Product: mobile phone components Location: Saltaire, Bradford Number of employees: 440 in six plants Turnover last year: £34 million



Martin Wainwright visits a hi-tech Yorkshire company to test reaction to the judgment

Manager: 'Our competitors are in Europe and they will be

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subject to the same rules'

who work 48 hours a week in affect Flitronic.
the machine shop, four 12 "I have never actually hour shifts. We also have known a big firm where

Geoff Fletcher, (above) company general manager, 39, married with a young family.

48 hours a week, but only on a

voluntary basis. F IT was less than 48 Everyone has five weeks' annual holiday plus statutory ald present us with probthe ruling doesn't appear to hours.

people have hud to work more than 48 hours a week. The European Court seems to have chosen a figure in the grey area between too little and too much.

"If for example, they had chosen 36 hours, that would have been taking regulation too far. These things come down to a contract between the employer and the em-ployee. At the other end, no

"The fact that it comes from Burope doesn't bother me at all. Our competitors are in Europe and they will be subject to the same rules. Our competitive edge lies in tech-nological innovation, too, rather than the size of our direct labour bill. It is more important to us that we keep that edge, and that means offering good conditions to at

Employee: 'I have been in situations before where people definitely took advantage of you

Peter Schofield (above), orga-nises stores, despatch and goods-in, 28, single. succeed. Because we're treated well, and there are clear rules and procedures,

TS a damn good thing. Here, they stick to 37five weeks' holiday and it's sure that orders are met. excellent. But I have been in situations before where people definitely took advantage of you. I know of we'll get the time for our several companies where other interests. you get only two weeks' holiday a year and hours can be up to 52 a week. No one can expect people to work well with conditions

people are willing to work extra when it's needed.

"We constantly have to The company is going for ward so fast, we have to

"I need to have time to get to the Lake District, either for walking or with my bike. And I do. "Before this, I worked at

native. You couldn't do overtime and you couldn't were so many people chasing the same goal. Here, how you do is a reflection of the work you put in.

"But people do need holi-

days. One of our directors went to the US this year and he was quite glad to get home. They have two weeks' holiday. He took his didn't see them that much.

"The key thing with this sort of regulation is that it should be based on sound advice, and it looks as though in this case it has

een.
"If they'd made the maxiwould have been hopeless. We'd have had to employ a like that.

a building society and it lot more people and the "Here, it's a matter of had such a set way of doing company's progress would wanting the company to things. It was so unimagi-

tract the best people." Why all the fuss if Thatcher agreed Vimmm... the terms for reform back in 1986? GITEHAI20X

What exactly is the Working Time Directive which triggered this showdown? It is part of what pro-Europe-ans call the social dimension of the EU. It gives workers minimum rights to holidays (including three weeks' paid annual leave, rising to four in the Bot. Highes workers mum working bours — 48 hours a week, but only as averaged over a four-month period (or longer with union and government agreement).

Sounds fair enough. Why

John Major's government argues that such arrangements are best left to employers and workers to settle according to traditions in each country. Rules imposed from Brussels make Europe uncompetitive and increase unemployment. already 20 million EU-wide. That is why deregulated, super-flexible Britain, which has few remaining statutory workers' rights, insisted on its opt-out from the Maastricht Treaty's social chapter

So why has the 48-hour week been imposed on us? There's the rub. Directive 93/ 104/EC was proposed under article 118A of the Treaty of Rome by qualified majority voting because hours, rest breaks and holidays are regarded by the EU majority as a Health and Safety matter. The TUC agrees. Overwork

costs £16 hillion a year in accidents and ill health.Under the as long ago as November 23 terms of the 1966 Single European Act such Issues can thus be decided without

Didn't Margaret Thatcher sign the 1986 Act? Yes, although Eurosceptics don't like admitting it. The pass was sold then, when she agreed to let reforms needed to create the 1992 European single market be agreed by QMV. Lady Thatcher now says she was deceived by the "conveyor belt of federalism".
Mr Major argues that using
the Health and Safety heading
is legislation by the back door to undermine Britain's competitiveness and low non-wage costs. It could add £100 million to hotel and catering costs

alone, the industry claims.

Lots, including all transport workers, fishermen, doctors in training, decision-making executives, prison officers, journalists, postmen, farm workers, and lots more. In any case, if workers agree to work longer hours, they can. The directive is "highly flexible" says the TUC. Most EU states have their own maximum working week anyway, usually 40 hours, 37 in Denmark

Why is it in the news this week? The directive was adopted by

A woman who hits a man

extreme circumstances.

whereas men seem to need

little or no excuse to start

pummelling their spouses.

usually does so only in

Francis Wheen

G2 page 5

as long ago as November 23 1993, just before Britain's social chapter opt-out kicked in. It so happens that then enployment secretary, David Hunt, a leading Europhile, did not vote against it. Having watered it down, he boasted the measure was now "toothless", abstained and announced that Britain would appeal against its legality as a ealth and safety matter. The commission would then have to have it reissued under article 100 — which Britain

could veto - or pass it under the social chapter, from which the UK has opted out. But we lost the appeal? Member states were given three years to incorporate it into domestic law. It has taken until almost the last minute to

get the court ruling, too late to legislate. As from November 33, the Government could be sued for damages. Hence Mr Major's tough stance.

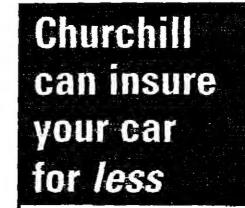
All this is election eering really, isn't it? Up to a point. Whitehall and Brussels have strong arguments on their side, worker protection versus labour flexibility, Compromises could be found. But Mr Major wants to play the anti-European card in the election and to accuse Labour of selling out to

rony Blair's too cute for

Indeed. Hence Gordon Brown's wary words to the CBI on social protection this week. Both sides exaggerate the issue's importance. It would make less difference than either claims.

Surely, getting tough with Brussels always impresses the voters?

Oh, yeah? Try asking them about the beef war which was supposed to end the ban on British exports by November. — Michael White and



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International force for Zaire

US stalls action to help refugees

Martin Walker in Washington

tracted by cabinet tempt to unseat the United Nations secretary-gen-eral, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, was being dragged slowly and unwillingly yesterday into giving token logistical sup-port to a Canadian-led inter-national force for the refugee

disaster in Zaire. American foot-dragging American foot-dragging threatened to prevent swift and serious action, as it did two years ago. US officials were stalling on the grounds that there was no clear miltary goal: was the force intended to safeguard humanitarian convoys unsh refusees. tarian convoys, bush refugees back into Rwanda, or send them back into their old camps in Zaire?

Canada's agreement to lead a multi-national force, and the reluctant acceptance by the Rwandan government of a modest French component, has made some kind of inter-

vention likely. But the basics of the operation — such as the number of troops, the kind of mandate

The move was 'an outrage against the country which foots the bills'

needed, and how to finance it are uncertain, victim of the confusion which surrounds all such UN ventures while America remains so deeply ambivalent about them.

There is no coherent plan rather four or five proposals running together," the state olas Burns said

The US said the refugee should be encouraged to return to Rwanda rather than be herded back to the overstrained camps in Zaire.

Mr Burns was careful not to rule out some American involvement in tackling This terrible humanitarian

tragedy".

Canada was taking the lead in planning the intervention yesterday, consulting Britain, France, the US and other interested powers.

But no meeting was scheduled at the UN in New York. It could escalate the row bewhere Mr Bourros-Ghali was | further delaying any hoping that a successful inter- | Zaire.

national effort could strengthen his case for stay-ing in office for a second term, despite US threats of a veto to exclude him. Canadian officials hoped

that a "firm decision to proceed" could be reached this week. They have offered a specially-trained force of 1,200 lightly armed troops with its own logistic, medical and communications facilities as the keystone of the effort. Earlier offers from France

and Spain to provide troops were stalled by Rwanda's initial refusal to accept French forces, seen as partial to

Zairean rebels remain cate gorically opposed to any French involvement. UN rules require the interventions' formal approval the governments of Rwanda and Zaire. The Zairean authority

in the eastern region has broken down. Britain, which was discus ing the intervention with Canada yesterday, says it

will contribute, but no deci-sion has been taken whether this will comprise troops, logistic support, or emergency finance. The South African president, Nelson Mandela, sup-

ports sending troops in prin-ciple, but as with the Malian and Ethiopian offers of troops, this appears to be con-tingent on the UN raising the

funds to finance the mission.

Ironically, the Zaire crisis seems tailor-made for the proposals floated last month by the US secretary of state, Warren Christopher, for an "African Crisis Response Force" with troops from African countries and financial assistance from richer countries, including the US.

But it may have come too soon for such an effort, which provoked criticism from the Republican-run Congress as a dangerously open-ended financial commitment which might draw the US into othe unwise interventions, like that in Somalia. The US, increasingly un-

popular at the UN, was voted off an important budgetary committee this week.

Senator Jesse Helms, just re-elected to resume his chair-manship of the foreign relations committee, described it as "an outrage against the country which foots the

It could escalate the row be



Cholera 'could wipe out 250,000 refugees'

Buchizya Meeteka In Kigali

HOLERA has broken out at a hillside settle-ment of about 250,000 Rwandan Hutu refugees near Bukavu in eastern Zaire and could kill many within days, a doctor said

yesterday. Walter Bonifazio, a member of the UN-funded Doc-tors in Catastrophic Situawere trapped in Mwenga. He said the 250,000 in 1994, after the genocide area of Zaire, where they Spain

Mwenga on Saturday night. but there is also dysentery and malnutrition. This, put together with the condi-tions of the 250,000 people is like putting fuel on fire,"

Dr Bonifazio said in Kigali. "The human loss will be impossible to calculate, it is a bomb, a very big bomb; and the people will die like flies unless help reaches

litia and troops of Rwanda's onsted Hutu army and

the Zairean army. His information is based on radio reports reaching his expatriate colleagues who are still working at

Bukavu hospital. Choiera killed at least 30,000 refugees within weeks of more than one million Hutus' fleeing from

and even if a UN force brought aid today, many more would be too sick to The aid agency Médecins Sans Frontières estimated

sands of refugees have al-

ready died in eastern Zaire

that 1,000 were dying every

day. — Reuter.

• A fourth Spanish missionary has been presumed North Kivn and South Kivn murdered in the Bukavu areas of Zaire to return to

120 miles west of rebel-held people at Mwenga were by Hutu extremists of up to being held hostage by the "Cholera broke out at former Rwandan Hutu mi-"

Bukavu, east Zaire. being held hostage by the former Rwandan Hutu mi
former Rwandan Hutu mi
former Rwandan Hutu miministry said.

Although the body of the fourth missionary had not been found he was believed to be dead, said Adolfo Varas García of the Marist order in Madrid.

Following the announcement, the foreign ministry asked the 39 Spanish mis-sionaries working in the North Kivu and South Kivu

Merry Christmas

and a

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Britain defiant vote

Mark Tran in New York

DRITAIN yesterday Bunderlined its anger at the United States' anti-Cuba legislation by supportng for the first time a United Nations resolution which calls for the US embargo against Havana to be lifted. All the European Union members backed the General Assembly resolution; in the previous five years they had abstained. Only three countries—the US, Israel and Uzbekistan — voted against.

The vote showed Washington's increasing isolation on the Helms-Burton law, which was introduced earlier this was introduced earner this year to penalise countries trading with Cuba. In a statement after the vote, the EU said: "The Euro-

ean Union wishes to reiter ate its rejection of attempts to apply national legislation on an extra-territorial basis. "We have always rejected

attempts by the United States to coerce other countries into complying with the commer-cial measures it has adopted unilaterally against Cuba." The EU is challenging the Helms-Burton law in a court newly established by the

World Trade Organisation. Britain has been among the most vocal critics of the law. The Helms-Burton act allows Cuban nationals who became US citizens after the revolution in 1959 to sue in US courts foreign companies or individuals which "traffic" in property confiscated by Fidel Castro's government.

Yesterday's vote was a pro-paganda boost for Cuba, which sponsored the resolution. It calls on all countries to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and mea-sures "that affect the sover-

signty of other countries".
The resolution also expressed Cube's concern that further measures had been taken against it despite the UN General Assembly's position since 1992, when the reso-

szish mun

ant end

lution was first proposed.
President Bill Clinton signed the Helms-Burton bill into law to woo the Cuban vote in Florida, but susvision which allows legal action against foreigners.

Mr Clinton had hoped to mollify his allies by signal-ling that he would be willing to extend the waiver when it comes up for renewal in January. But those hopes now look

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Arabs to shun Israel at economic summit

The soured Middle porating the Jewish state. It proposed \$27 billion (about 217 billion) of grandiose East peace process is looming over the Cairo forum, writes **David Hirst**

THE third Middle East and North Africa Eco-nomic Conference, Mena III, opened in Cairo yes-terday in a climate of outright hostility — for the Muharwa-lun are on the run.

The Muharwalun - those who "rush" or "scurry"— are now a key concept in Arab political discourse. The Syrian poet Nizar Kabbani coined the phrase after the Oslo Accord and the historic handshake on the White House lawn between Yitzhak Rabin and Yasser Arafat: "We have queued up like sheep for the slaughter, we have rushed and panted to lick the assas-

The rush to "normalise" with a triumphant Israel is now derided by those who see it as a mark of Arab

normalisation, a fact demon-strated by these annual economic jamborees. The origi-nal aim was to create a regional economic order of which Israel would be an integral part - economic co-operation would consolidate Middle East peace. At summits in Casablanca

Shimon Peres's vision of a new Middle East, in which pan-Arab institutions would

King Hussein of Jordan told his people that increasing normalisation would increase prosperity. Mr Arafat said that given the right economic climate he would turn Palestine into a "new Singapore".

The "scurriers" argued that Arab conciliation would encourage Israel to complete the peace process on the Palestin-ian, Syrian and Lebanese fronts. Arab countries not directly involved in the conflict also rushed to normalise: Morocco, Tunis and Qatar opened lisison bureaux in Is-rael, Qatar even agreed to supply it with natural gas.
The scurriers' critics said

'Why should we take part when Israel is preparing

for war?" the Arabs should withhold

the economic rewards of normalisation as their last remaining means of pressure Pro-American Saudi Arabia whose immense wealth makes it the ultimate prize of Israel's economic penetra-tion, refused lift the boycott of Israel until a comprehensive

peace was achieved.
The turning point came
with the rise of Binyamin Netanyahu. He is now held up as in 1994 and Amman in 1995, tanyahu. He is now held up as Israel led the way in fostering the embodiment of just how wrong the scurriers were. "People are asking a simple

al-Ahram. "Why should we take part in an international economic gathering supposedly designed to underpin regional peace and security with economic co-operation

when Israel rejects peace and is preparing for war?" For a while it looked as if Mena III would not convene arak threatened to cancel the summit if Israel continued to renege on its peace commit-ments. He only relented under intense US pressure, and because Egypt, anxious to advertise its privatisation drive, has more to gain from it than Israel.

The scurriers are now backtracking. Jordan has only sent a medium-level delegation: King Hussein is less ready to stick his neck out now that almost every politi-cal party in his kingdom has called for "an end to all forms of normalisation with the Zimist enemy". Mr Arafat has reluctantly

agreed to send a delegation to Cairo, but the West Bank businessmen's association is boycotting the conference, saying that Palestine "got nothing" out of Casablanca and Amman because of Israeli restrictions.

Qatar has postponed the opening of a liaison office in rel Aviv and frozen its natural gas deal. Other govern ments have reportedly told their delegations to make no deals with the Israelis.

no secret of it since Israel is going back on the peace pro-cess, the Arabs should go back on the basic objectives of Mena I and II, and turn pan-Arab institutions would and logical question," said Mena III into a forum the deputy editor of Cairo's inter-Arab business alone. Mena III into a forum for erdeen in the past 18 months

US army widens sex inquiry to other bases

THE United States army. examining claims of sexual harassment of young fe-male recruits at the Aberdeen training centre, has extended the investigation to at least three other military bases after receiving more than 2,000 calls on a special tele-phone complaints hotline.

So far, 246 calls have been referred to the army's criminal investigation department. Fifty-six concerned the Aber-

deen centre in Maryland.
The army has charged two
of Aberdeen's drill sergeants
and a captain with coercing sex from young recruits eight weeks into their basic training. Two other sergeants face lesser charges of making "unwanted advances", and 15 instructors have been suspended from duty pending investigations.

The army has promised "zero tolerance" of sexual of-fences and senior ranks who do not help to stamp out harassment.
"We assume that it could be

happening somewhere else, and that is why the army is casting its net very wide across the army," the chair-man of the joint chiefs of staff at the Pentagon, General John Shalikashvili, said yesterday. The new training centre being investigated are at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri, Fort Knox in Kentucky, and Fort Jackson in South

Carolina. The army has sent questionnaires to more than 1,000 women who went through Abto see if they were harassed.

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"It is a question of what we regard as sacred. We just did not want to see Gandhi become a victim of commercialisation," The Gandhi papers

G2 cover story

Free-market food summit condemned

John Hooper in Rome

HE World Food Summit opens here today to a chorus of protest from charities who argue it will merely serve to en-dorse a set of free-market principles favouring the

The final declaration, agreed in advance, commits the international community to strive for food security "through a fair and market oriented world trade system" In pre-summit statements several charities argued that a market-led system could not

Save the Children denounced the summit as a "forum for legitimising a new international code of practice which basically subordinates basic rights to the market philosophy".

'Actionaid claimed that free

trade was among the "main causes of food insecurity". Oxfam said: "Enhanced competition between the surplus agricultural systems of the industrialised world and the deficit systems of the developing world will exacer-bate problems of food depen-dency and destroy the livelihoods of vulnerable

The nub of the charities' argument is that trade cannot be fair while the rich countries subsidise their farmers and allow the trading of grain to remain in the bands of half a dozen trans-

national companies. The World Development Movement said yesterday that the biggest, Cargill, had an income equivalent to that of the nine largest sub-Saharan African countries.

The charities argue that the removal of tariff barriers can only undermine Third World to become dependent on im-ports, particularly of United States grain.

Oxfam's research paper quotes Hubert Humphrey telling a congressional commission in 1857: "If you are looking for a way to get people to lean on you and be dependent on you, in terms of their co-operation with you, it seems to me that food dependence would be terrific."

Save the Children was concerned that global cereal stocks were being kept at their lowest levels for years in the search for more market-sensitive pricing.
At the Istanbul, Beijing and

Cairo UN conferences, which dealt with cities, women and population, there were divsions between governments and between the non-govern-mental organisations (NGCs). This time, with the govern-ments of the First and Third Worlds having already agreed on the declaration, the stage is set for a straight clash be-tween officialdom and the

NGOs. Charitable organisations say that a unique opportunity has been lost to extract com-mitments to the eradication miniments to the eradication of hunger. According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the Rome-based UN agency which is staging the summit, more than 800 million people in the developing world are suffering from underputition.

from undernutrition.
The conference aims to halve the number by 2010. And it is not seeking any

pledges of assistance from the First World. Christian Aid sald yester-day: "There will be little to show for the Rome meeting unless governments are pushed to follow it up. The agreed actions are purely vol-untary and there will be no undermine Third World | new money on the table — the production and force it | real measure of commitment."



Two works by Ingres - Tôte de Jupiter (above) and Portrait de père Desmarets (right) - are among the unclaimed works looted mainly from Jewish families during the second world war which are now being shown on the Internet

Museums, stung by claims that they have dragged their feet in tracing the owners of 2,000 paintings stolen by the Nazis from private collections which together are worth millions of pounds, are trying a hi-tech tactic to silence the critics.

Paul Webster in Paris reports

France turns to Internet to display looted artworks

Spanish miners strike over plans to end subsidies

Adela Gooch in Madrid

INING communities in the northern Spanish province of León began a general strike yesterday, marching through the streets in angry protest at government plans to phase out subsidies to the coal industry.

with a one-minute blackout on Monday night, were led by 8,000 pit workers. They herald further strikes in other mining areas — notably Asturias, on the northern coast.

Many pits in León, where shops and schools closed for the two-day strike, are in private hands but will be badly affected by the government's to meet the Maastricht proposals to, in effect, kill off ria for monetary union.

Nuvis

国门长路

councils in the region. The lights on León's cathedral were doused and its bells tolled 60 times.

The miners want the gov ernment to reverse its plan to lift subsidies on Spanish coal and let power companies choose where they obtain

But their days are num The protests, which began bered. Spanish coal is of low quality, as well as costing 25 times as much as South Afri-can coal, and 20 times as much as United States coal.

The conservative govern-ment, planning to sell off state-owned power companies as part of an effort to open up heavily protected industries, says the measures are needed to meet the Maastricht crite-

Some factory workers also joined the protest, which has the backing of many town to soften his initial plan.

RENCH museums are | national meeting of govern- | families who were isolated | unclaimed paintings have | ited twice in the 1950s and | recently investigated dorment representatives and museum officials was held at the Louvre in Paris this creating a pictorial catalogue on the Internet of 2,000 paintings and other works of art, together worth millions of pounds,

weekend.
The 2,058 unclaimed works, including Impressionist paintings, notably 12 by the English artist Alfred Sisley, and pictures by Ingres, Boucher and Chardin, were among 60,000 pieces looted from private French collections which were discovered in in an effort to trace the owners of unclaimed mas-terpieces recovered from Germany after the second world war. In a further attempt to silence critics who claim that the French govern-ment has not tried hard enough to find the owners

which were discovered in

French and foreign origin were deported. Raids on their homes by the Einsatzab Rosenberg, a commando of art experts working for Herman Goering. amassed thousands of works of art.

by the Vichy regime's Jew-ish Statute in 1940 and later sent to Germany

where they died in concen-

of looted artwork, an inter- | Most belonged to Jewish | ies which exhibit or stock | paintings had been exhib- | (£870,000) found in 11 | the Holocaust.

been criticised since revelahave been reluctant to release looted Jewish

tration camps.
About 76,000 Jews of But the director of the Musées de France, Fran-coise Cachin, said: "Con-trary to a commonly held view, state-run galleries have nothing to hide and have never spared efforts to give back works to their rightful owners."

were regularly checked against an inventory of lundered works.

By 1949, 45,000 looted objects had been returned and thousands more sold, she Since the reunification of Germany, a further 28 im-

portant artworks have been recovered, seven of which have been returned

mant Swiss bank accounts belonged to Jewish victims of the Holocaust, the country's banking ombudsman said yesterday.

"It was around 11,000 Swiss francs [£5,800]." Hanspeter Haeni said. Five of the account holders ap-peared to be Jewish. In the other six cases it was either unclear whether the owner to their owners.

Only a tiny portion of the life accounts became dormant before or long after

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£3bn 'missing' from EU coffers

ORE THAN 23 billion of European Union funds is missing, according to the latest annual audit. The money, mainly des-tined for approved projects in

agricultural fraud and corruption in areas traditionally under suspicion, such as South European olive oil production, but also the misap-plication of funds by member states and their failure to collect customs dues.

They estimated that 80 per cent of the money that went astray was the responsibility of the member states and 20 per cent was down to

The commission promised yesterday in the wake of the report to enforce stricter controls on how EU finance is

Erkki Liikanen, the Finnish commissioner responsible for budget accounting, said: "It is not pleasant to listen to errors and mistakes in finan-cial management. People usually say that errors occur in other countries but there is no scientific basis for that. It

happens across the board."

He said the commission would take up the matter at the heads of government sum-mit in Dublin next month,

the disbursement of structural funds. This would mean that EU money given to pro-jects which were not eligible

could be reclaimed The Court of Auditors, the independent accountancy cording to the latest annual audit. The money, mainly destined for approved projects in member states, appears to have been misspent.

Auditors calculated that funds would have been lost to checks on expenditure.

A commission report ear lier this year estimated that about £300 million — 0.9 per cent of the annual budget was misspent, two-thirds of it by member states. The com-mission claimed yesterday that much of the money estimated as missing would be ac-counted for if member states tributing EU finances.

The auditors' report points to long-standing problems in the common agriculture fund such as double accounting of olive oil, caused by the failure of Southern member spent on roads and structural states to institute proper

recording procedure It estimates that millions of pounds were lost by the fail-ure of governments to collect down frauds in agricultural export refunds.

The problem is such that 10 per cent of the £120 million allocated to fight fraud cannot be accounted for. The report suggests that that may be because not all the paperwork was available.

The EU budget is 1.2 per putting forward proposals for cent of the gross national tighter accountancy rules for products of member states.

Plan to limit TV imports fails to pass parliament

ATEMPTS led by British United States imports.

The plan, opposed that more than half the protelevision are made in the European Union falled to win a sufficient majority in the European Parliament adopted by 291 to 170 votes in Strasbourg, but fell 23 votes of an absolute majority.

Parliament adopted by 291 to 170 votes in Strasbourg, but fell 23 votes of an absolute majority.

Parliament adopted by 291 to 170 votes in Strasbourg, but fell 23 votes of an absolute majority.

The proposal that at least should start on installing and videos should originate in Europe was aimed at safe.

The plan, opposed by most

Ruropean Parliament yesterday, writes Stephen Bates in Strasbourg. parents to vet their children's and warding off the flood of viewing.

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Bashing Brussels again

But wait: wouldn't less hours mean more jobs?

tance to the European Court of Justice's | was plenty of medical evidence to show ruling on a 48-hour maximum working Eurosceptic wing and positioning itself against the Labour Party than it does to the underlying merits of the case. If only Mr Major could rise to such impassioned rhetoric on an issue that matters. What is at issue is not whether people ought to work a 48-hour week but whether they should be compelled to. The judgment of the European Court exempts lots of key workers - like nurses, junior hospital and transport workers - altogether and the rest are only affected if they are forced to work against their will for an average of 48 hours over a four-month reference period that can be extended by agreement to six or even 12 months. This accommodates the sort of situation like a sudden rush of export deliveries - that is worrying the minority of businesses getting steamed up about it. Otherwise, what is this all about?

Surely the Prime Minister doesn't seriously think that Britain's prosperity is dependent on people working over 80 per cent of their waking days (excluding travelling time) for most of the year, leaving very little time for the family values the Conservatives so enthusiastically espouse. As the Liberal Democrat trade spokesman Nick Harvey said yesterday: "If there are many companies who are forcing people to work more than 48 hours and not even giving them three weeks' holiday, they jolly well shouldn't be." Perhaps MPs should try two or three weeks' holiday a year themselves instead of three months (and that's just the summer bit) to see what it's like. The ruling is fully justified by the health risks attached to arduous hours, as the Government's own report, prepared by Professor Harrington of Birmingham University, indicated (even though the Government

THE GOVERNMENT'S fierce resis- | didn't publish it). He argued that there that a 48-hour week was bad for health. week owes much more to appeasing its | In these circumstances, a judgment laying down limits to compulsory working will be a constraint on exploitative employers while allowing long hours to be worked on a jointly agreed basis.

This leaves the crucial question:

whether it is economically sensible for people to be working such long hours when millions have no job at all. There is no mechanical relationship between overtime amd unemployment though some economists, like Paul Gregg of the National Institute, argue that if the long-term reduction in hours worked (from 57 hours a week in 1860) had continued into the 1980s, instead of grinding to a halt, then a million extra jobs could have been created. According to the Employment Institute, total hours worked in spring 1995 were up 31 million compared with three years earlier, a rise of 3.5 per cent, so a lot of the extra wealth was earned by people in employment rather than those looking for work. Since a lot of overtime is at premium rates, it could actually be cheaper for companies to employ more fresh people at ordinary rates to do the work instead of leaving its existing labour force almost certainly tired from such long hours. If unemployment declined, then the Government too would gain from not having to shell out so much unemployment pay. Mr Major has his own motives for adopting the stance he has and part of it may be to force Labour into a stance which is more in favour of regulation and rule from Brussels. But if he thinks there are lots of votes to be won by forcing employees to work long hours with short holidays, then he must have been talking to some pretty strange people. Maybe he should get back to his soapbox quickly to find out what people are really thinking.

Europe's fraud mountain

Don't bash Brussels this time either; it's not their fault

tion exploding popular myths about Europe is available in only one language - English. Yesterday provided a useful illumination of why it is needed. "Billions lost by bungling in Brussels" announced the Daily Telegraph's headline, adding "... as Major warns EU on 48hr week". As it happens, the two events in question — the annual report of the European Court of Auditors on the EU budget and the European Court ruling on the EU working-hours directive - were entirely separate, But in the present atmosphere of anti-European suspicion, these important distinctions pass for nothing.

There can be no disputing the shoddy state of budgetary control exposed in the EU auditors' report. Some of the errors are fraudulent, though most of them are caused more by incompetence, mismanagement and sloppiness. There are clearly particular problems in the operation of EU's social fund. Yet, contrary to the impression given by those "bungling by Brussels" headlines, it is national governments and delivery agencies which are responsible for most of the deceptions and wastages detailed in yesterday's report, and not the European Union. Most of the problems lie in southern European nations not northern ones, and while it is true that fraud and poorly-audited delivery systems are not unknown in this country (as Peter Lilley never tires sible governments that indignation in order.

THE European Commission's publica- ought to focus, not on the lazily familiar target of "Brussels". For all that, this is the second year running in which the auditors have refused to certify the legality of what is going on. Six per cent of all payments in the EU may be affected - more than £3 billion out of a total of £55bn. These are disgraceful failings. They would not be legal in a commercial company and they should not be tolerated here either.

However unfairly, these revelations hurt the European Union generally. To the Europhobe press, they are simply additions to the Any Stick To Beat A Dog category into which most British debate about Europe has now descended and which has now produced another absurd piece of Euro-posturing by the UK government over the working-hours' directive. This endlessly negative and hostile approach in London is very damaging. But the European political class should not ignore the mood in this country over these revelations. Waste and fraud are rightly unacceptable. They undermine faith in the trustworthiness of the European Union much more widely than the single currency. Coming at a time when far too many European governments are too ready to fiddle their own budgetary figures in order to get their economies into line for the single currency, they dangerously widen the European credibility gap. Europe's rulers should be in no doubt. People are right to be sceptiof explaining) it is against the respon- cal about a house that cannot keep itself

Disaster in the crowded skies

The Delhi tragedy has lessons for the rest of the world

that yesterday's disaster near Delhi hectic period of the early evening. The may be regarded as an appalling tragedy but a wholly exceptional one. At least that it is what the statistics show. The world's worst air disasters have only involved single aircraft, with the exception of two collisions (one on the ground) some 20 years ago. Yet it would be a mistake to confine this latest catastrophe to such a narrow bracket. Genuine mid-air collisons - that is between planes at or near cruising height - are almost non-existent, But this accident occurred within a few minutes of the planes either landing or taking off, which puts it in a very

different category. It has long been recognised that the maximum risk to planes occurs when they are, separately, in such a situation. As air traffic increases, so does the South Asia's busiest airport and this ment elsewhere.

MID-AIR COLLISIONS are still so rare | accident occurred in the particularly fact that a small, ex-Soviet airline was involved may or may not be relevant. The usual concerns about air traffic control will be raised. A combination of factors may, by ill chance, have been responsible. But every accident has to be looked at afresh.

Air travel remains - as we are always being told - the safest form of transport. But a price has to be paid, even if it is statistically very small, for allowing an increasing volume of traffic to occupy virtually the same airspace to satisfy commercial demands. The authorised vertical separation between these two planes — 1,000 feet — may be regarded as very close for comfort. In Britain's crowded skies, near-misses are regularly reported under similar conditions. This tragedy should prompt complexity of flight paths. Delhi is a long moment of cautious reassess-



Letters to the Editor

Mr Redwood, in need of respect

JOHN Redwood's article (Authority on changing life in our schools, November 12) seems to have been written by some bumbling Colonel Blimp from another age, full of bland mouthings based on a failure to understand the sort of live people actually live — or in-deed the effects of his own government's policies. One of these extraordinary pro-nomcaments equates "gangs roaming the streets at night" with the assumption that "the local secondary school lacks leadership", resting on the as sumption that had the school enjoyed "leadership" the youths would have 'burnt off their energy on the soccer

Because of his government's policies, "soccer pitches" are for many schools things of the past, having been sold off. Besides, the National Curriculum leaves little time for games. Trisha Gilbert. Stac Polly, Crayke, York YO6 4TB.

COULD not agree more with John Redwood's assertion with the world of multitudi-that "authority needs to nous overlapping circles "we s, therefore, such a shame that he is a supporter of a gov ernment which, by its craver disregard for honesty and its lack of fairmindedness in its dealings with substantial ele-ments of society, has long since forfeited any right to respect. Moreover, his advo-cacy of well-supplied school pitches for the dissipation of uvenile energies, and the incentive of employment as means of re-establishing au-thority and discipline, rings hollow from an MP whose party has done so much to rid our society of these blessings. Gerry Rawcliffe.

30 Clifton Road, ondon N22 4XN. OHN Redwood has left me Jalmost speechless with rage. How dare he write an article for any newspaper, let alone the Guardian, which is so patronising and offers such trite, backneyed and offensive views? I quote: "I am the first to agree that parents should not beat their children senseless." Is there anyone who holds such a view?
Teachers are blamed for the
gangs roaming the streets at
night. Again: "It must be diffiright Again. It must be unit cult for a 13-year-old girl to be a mother ... "Since there has been a Conservative govern-ment for all of the 13-yearold's life, perhaps she needs a change of political party? Kate Little. 18 Ellesmere Drive, Nottingham NG9 3PA.

Ornithology

WOULD like to clarify a few points regarding your City Column of October 26 about and take overs. There was no vulture fund operated by Peregrine. Hermes, as long-term holders (16 per cent of the fund) asked Peregrine to help gather other stockholder support to join us in realising shareholder value. As a result of our action, which was supported by 95 per cent of share-holders, the fund is now openended and therefore trades at NAV, rather than up to a 38 per cent discount seen in previous years.

We consider this action to be totally consistent with the exercise of good corporate governance and was to the adntage of all shareholders. Allan B Conway. Director of Overseas Equities Hermes Investment 21 Mansell Street. Condon El 8AA.

Please înclude a full postal address, even on e-mailed

The generation game

from those of the mass of the

population, many of whom

enristences

ARTIN Jacques (Decline and fallacy, Essay, November 9) morality is the way in which the agenda has been set by members of the political class suggests that the sixtles were whose life styles are so remote thinking about social issues. not really a better moral time. But while many of us were active in Anti-Apartheid and supporters of homosexual-law reform, and believed a Labour government would improve life in Britain by increasing equality, Martin was an unre-constructed old Stalinist in the Communist Party. He believed the Berlin Wall was a good thing; that the continued Soviet occupation of Bastern Europe was necessary and that a Lebour government should be undermined rather than supported.

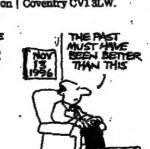
The sixties were not about clinging to an idealised view of the "family", but the easing of restrictive and oppressive boundaries on personal David Townsend

39 Warwick Gardens Worthing, Sussex BN11 1PF.

ARTIN Jacques com-pares the "largely stom-ised existence" of his parents with the world of multitudilive in" today. But the "we" he refers to is that of upwardly mobile metropolitans, freewheeling their way from tele-vision studio to think-tank office convinced that their way of life is the norm. What is most revealing

about the current debate on | Coventry CV1 3LW.

echoes of a Marxist past. John Mogre.



games. Here in Oxford,

churchwomen and men are at the heart of Asylum Wel-

come's work on behalf of ex-Campsfield detainees and

secularists to recognise their

ABETTER barometer of the extent of racial inequality than Martin Jacques's Indian

Christian allies.

5 Joan Lawrence Place,

Headington, Oxford.

Kitty Datta.

Paul Watt.

P Matthews

63 Moriand Close, Hampton, Middlesex

Senior Lecturer in

Social Policy, University of East London

Dagenham, Essex RMB 2AS.

should be trying to solve. Most

ment rules (Get real about job

12). I have gone further to point out that the arguments over the single currency are inexorably linked with this

issue and with any attempt to

harmonise a European social model. If one examines the

rest of Europe, rigid employ-

creation in Europe, November

I Morgan. 36 May Crescent, Lincoln LN1 1LP. ARTIN Jacques down-plays the greed and self-ishness embodied in economic policy-making. He speaks for the influential part of society in a relatively secure position as to income and earnings. The company managers who ahed labour are comfortable, as are the professional work-ers and bureaucrats, who do deeply. The same applies to many manual workers — low

ecure income. But government expenditure on employment will add to the deficit and create the spectre of tax increases. For a substantial part of the population, the unemployment equi-librium is to be preferred to the relevant corrective mea-"lack of skills" of the unemployed than to endorse the morality of an alternative eco-nomic strategy, with its

inflation is fine if you have a



A working week is a long time in politics

Mr Willetts, in want of honesty

ONCE again we are faced with the ridiculous sight formed on the churches' thinking about social issues. Thinking Christians nowadays read, for example, Gustavo Gutierrez's liberation theology, or Ken Leech's The Rye Of The Storm, or Rosemary Ruether's critique of male fallacies and power sames. Here in Oxford. ing to linguistic sophistry as a way out (Minister accuse of lying, November 12). We've had Alan Clark — who was "economical with the actus lité". Then Michael Howard, with his "operational matletts, who would have us be-lieve that "he wants advice" really means "he is in want of advice", and who regrets that he "structured" an "unstruclocal caring agencies. Rather than decrying what has been repressive in church attitudes, it is time for socialist tured conversation".

This imaginative use of language could only operate within Westminster. It will not rebuild public confidence in politicians. Sleaze cannot be swept away by one select committee. We need a politi-cal system which operates by rules which we can all under stand and have access to. Per-haps then we will get politi-cians who speak in plain English.

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language parties

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Section 2.

wife's personal experiences might be the fact that rates of Andrew Puddephatt. unemployment amongst black and Asian people are still at levels way beyond those for white people and that the gap Director, Exmouth House. London EC1R OJH is of a similar magnitude to

Living to protect his salary and his reputation, or he really does sometimes use "wants" in the old-fashioned sense of "needs". I suggest a ARTIN Jacques is cor-rect to point out that the search through recent speeches in Hansard, to find majority is far more aware of prejudice and injustice than out how often he has said things like "what criminals 20 years ago. The anachro-nism is that the Government want is firm punishment" and "the committee wants has cloaked itself in myth and sound advice" (in cases nostalgia, rather than con-fronting the moral maze it where it had clearly not asked for it). A few cases of "what the health service is in want children are more aware of of . . . " would be helpful. If we the rights and needs of the infind a reasonable number, dividual than any cabinet fair enough; if we don't ...

Philip Thonemann.

16 Shakespeare Road, London NW7 4BB. FEEL sure thousands will wish to join me in congratu-lating Sir Geoffrey Johnson-Smith for booking his place in the Lords. I always thought he was awfully good on Autocue on the Tonight pro-gramme on BBC some years ago. And his hair was always

immaculate. George Willoughby-Houghton. 106 Queensgate, London SW7

OR all their public-school talk about honour and values, the Tories haven't got any. Given the opportunity to show some integrity, they prefer to tell pack of lies.

ment rules have had one sig-nificant effect — a massive increase in the number of

THE imposition of the 48- ruling be offset by fewer acci-hour-maximum working dents at work, a reduction in week (Major defiant on 48hour week, November 12) will highlight the fact that, in many occupations — because of different attitudes towards travel, ten breaks, working lunches, preparation periods, etc — there is no consensus as to what actually counts as "work". Thus the aggregation of an employee's performance is not a matter which can be resolved by the simple introduction of a tachograph-like

which may, ultimately, be to the advantage of their employers and society as a whole? David Ainley.
41 The Hill, Cromford,
Matlock, Derbyshire DS4 SRP.

payments necessary to cover absence during sickness (in-cluding stress), improved op-portunities for people to spend

time with their families, and in the sort of self-development

resolved by the simple introduction of a tachograph-like device.

But to what extent will any perceived disadvantages of the European social model is not a tachograph-like device.

And delighted that Hugo Bill Cash MP.
Chairman,
The European Foundation.
For Park Road,
Chairman,
The European Foundation.

60 Park Road,
Loughbrough LE11 2810.

The BBC is losing its voice the most suitable suggestions

WE are deeply concerned about the consequences only if they are aware of the thinking behind commissionof John Birt's planned reorgaing policy.
The BBC's restructuring nisation of the BBC (BBC merges radio and television production, November 7). The processes have excluded creimplications are profoundly disturbing. The main alm is ative artists. The Writers' Guild was not approached for input. Nor have writers any to enable the BBC to grab the clear idea of how we will be expected to liaise in the commercial pickings of digi-tal broadcasting. The thrust future, either with BBC Production (which will make our work) or BBC Broadcast is towards homogenisation with the commercial sector. The emphasis is on delivery (which will commission it). tather than content. If the range of voices on the BBC is diluted for commercial How does BBC managem intend to keep its 250 promises

expediency, the country will to its viewers and listeners? be the poorer. The BBC will Alan Ayckbourn. have lost its distinctive remit. David Croft. there will be no need for the Alan Drury. licence fee and public service broadcasting will be dead. Ray Galton. Frank Muir. The proposed division be-Jimmy Perry. tween the editorial commis-sioning and scheduling depart-Harold Pinter. Alan Plater. ment, and the programme-Jack Rosenthal. making department, ignores the fact that the writing and Willy Russell John Wilsher. making of quality radio and television drama can flourish and four others. only as an organic process. Writers' Guild of Gt Britain, The best programme-makers 430 Edgware Ross and writers can come up with London W2 1EH. 430 Edgware Road,

A Country Diary

THE WREKIN: "Winter's tory stands erect, where the returning song" awakes this sweet soils of the lowlands returning song" awakes this year as a stillness; a quiet sunrise on silver grey frosts which fix the landscape in a moonlit glow. The day is bright and blue, still and strangely quiet. Evening falls early with cold glamorous sunsets. On the way to the Little Hill at the southern end of the Wrekin, the sky is like a huge burning shore with dark wooded islands sailing through it. Arriving at the top of the hill - too late to see the sun disappear into the Stip-persiones — the lingering sunset colours of that flaming ocean of the west begin to bleed from the sky and into the woodlands. The saffron glow of larches, and the inky blue-green caks and pines, flare for a brief, dying moment. All around the Shropshire countryside are pools shire countryside are pools and streams of mist and, like the mists, the sounds of the landscape are separated by a cool, still space. Without a breath of wind, the plume of steam from the sugar-best fac.

are turned to sugar. The last flash of light sparks from a meander in the Severo and a small pool against a dark wood Just as darkness grips, all the pheasants begin their clockwork alarm together. The birds make a final com-munal salute to the light, which spreads from the west until it fades like the sound of a high-speed train into the east. Then the owls start. The first voice has lost all trace of summer's softness now and has a harsher, rasping screech: the sound of cold blood, the sound of jagged pine branches in the dusk. Other owls answer from the dark, impenetrable boundaries of their woods. Suddealy, the ghostly forms of antiered bodies flicker, their sharp hooves crackling through the static of crisp leaves, into the deepest night of trees. One star above the

John Duncan

Walk A

ARRODS, the Ken-sington supermarket, is never knowingly underpriced, but the £1 charge to use their toilets is perfectly justified by the gorgeous surroundings pro-vided for top people to point Sir Percival at the antique porcelain. However, the fee has proved such good value that the toilets have become a profit centre in their own right, according to senior toilet executives at the store. Those who smirk and suggest that the company is thus making money out of posh crap, a la Ratner cutglass decanter, are heading for a slap. Indeed, Harrods' generosity knows no bounds. If you spend £100 in the store you can now pee for free. Three cheers for the Al Fayeds.

ECOND instalment of the sensational serial-isation of the page three lead from November 5 Lynn News. Our amputee hero has been caught with £200 of fake £20 notes in his pants. The story continues. "Mark Van Der Zwart, mark van her zwart, prosecuting, told the court that the defendant had of-fered one of the dud notes to a prostitute in Wisbech on December 19 last year but before accepting it she had tested it and found it was a fake." Is that a counterfeit pencil in your pocket or are you just pleased to see me? More tomorrow.

ARA Palmer-Tomkinson has pretty hot com-petition for the most elf-important social column — last week's Sun-day Times "article" was illustrated with a picture of her and her sister — but TP-T is different class. Various theories abound on why she calls herself the It Girl. Nicholas Frampton-Green suggests from Monaco that it is because she is too busy going to parties to make up her mind whether she is male or female, while a close pai Willy Van Der Kerkhof tells us from Grand Cayman that it is because she is one of Europe's leading experts on Information Technology.

It certainly can't be anything to do with her being incredibly cool, judging by reports of her behaviour at the party for The First Wives Club. TP-T was keen to chat up Val Kilmer, who had taken up his position outside the ladies' tollets. She wasn't having much luck, but it takes more than a totally bored stare to put off an It girl, and TP-T drew on all her school-disco social graces to get her man. "Oh do come to the Grand be lots of pretty girls there." Wow, cool line. If only we were It people too.

EHE tedions handwringing over Crash— the Cronenberg auto-erotica film—has had one beneficiary. So upset by the x 'n' shunting film were the upholders of public morals that they failed to notice an incident at the London Film Festival far more suitable for helping them on to their high horses. Some Mother's Son. about the bunger striker Bobby Sands and directed by former INLA prisoner Terry George, was sched-uled for first British viewing at the LFF last Sunday. Which of course is Remembrance Sunday and not, ahem, suitable at all. Happily the error was realis in time and the screening goes ahead next week.

ICHAEL Heseltine turned up for a speaking engage-ment yesterday without his reading glasses, and was unable to see his speech until a spare pair was found from the audience. Could this explain why the line be-tween right and wrong on using civil servants for party-political work seemed so blurred the other day?

S YOU probably already know, the latest Thierry Mugier male fragrance (what used to be called after-shave) is launched today. It's called A*Men and one of the ingredients is tar. "The tar evokes the memory of long and lazy journeys along American highways," said a smelly PR. Presumably then a hint of four-day-old underpants, left-over burgers, the sweat of four hitch-bikers and an overflowing ashtray are also in there somewhere too. Hang on a mo' Mr Mugler. Some one in the office is wearing it already. Counterfeiter!

133 \$



Bullies behind the net curtains

Commentary

Catherine Bennett

OR some time it has been hard to imagine which, if any, activities could conceivably preclude admission to the House of Commons. If an MP can lie to the House; if he can maintain five concurrent sex-ual partners, or accept money for questions, or drink-drive his car into toddlers, or assault road protesters, and still claim the right to govern, can there be any limits to the in-dulgence of this most forgiving of institutions? All at once, it seems there are. One thing the Commons cannot abide, and simply will not tolerate, is the prospect of a man who is said to beat his wife. who is said to beat his wife.

Which is why the Labour Party is still searching for a replacement for Ian Wingfield, its candidate in the impending Wirral South by-election. He has dropped out following allegations by a newspaper that he had once assaulted an ex-girlfriend,

and had also set upon his ex- | violence. "It is his private life

Wingfield has described rumours", but has decided to stand down. Had he been elected an MP, Wingfield might well have been con-sulted by battered women in sides, everyone agrees that domestic violence is unforgiv-able. Only last week, Janet Anderson, Labour's Shadow Minister for Women, said: "Domestic violence against women is something that should not be tolerated in a civilised society."

Agreed — but how do we go about not tolerating it? A resourceful tabloid can obviously do much to protect the ously do much to protect the House of Commons from alleged wifebeaters, but what the Mail on Sunday has done for Wingfield, all the might of tabloid Britain has been unable to do to Geoffrey Boycott. According to a BBC spokesman, the recent allegations of assemble by Manney Manney and the spokesman, the recent allegations of assemble by Manney Manney and the spokesman. assault by Margaret Moore have "no bearing" on Boy-cott's commentating career. Boycott denies Moore's story.

and not for me to interfere, said Rangers' football club's vice-chairman. On the other side, prominent women queued up to denounce Gas-coigne's selection as an af-

front to justice, a lamentable signal to the nation's youth. The most memorable reaction came from Joan Bakewell: "His reputation should be spat upon," she said. "I would prefer it if he were to pass out of public life altogether."

Most women commentators seemed to agree. Domestic vio-lence could never be a private matter; it was part of a contin-uum of male violence towards women which slides into rape,

war and child abuse. What did female non-commentators think? On the eve of the Inter national Conference on Viclence. Abuse and Women's Citizenship, the Independent on Sunday commissioned a Mori poll of 772 women. Over half — 51 per cent — said that the allegations of domestic violence should not have stopped Gascoigne being picked for England; 43 per cent said they should. How could this be? Julie Bindel, of Justice for Women, could only conjecture that women — soft. tender-hearted fools! — had been swayed by Gazza's public apology. "I'm surprised and disappointed by the poll," she

erant of men's bad beha-

But you do not have to believe în Panorama's bizarre attempt to portray women as the principal assailants in do-mestic affray, to accept that domestic violence is more muddled an issue than some women's groups might want to accept. We know that many women are beaten and terrorised by their partners, and deserve much more help than they receive. The continuing shortage of refuges for such women, 25 years since Erin Pizzey launched hers in Chiswick, is lamentable. But does all domestic vio-

lence fit this particular pat-tern? In a recent Guardian report, members of lesbian couples said that they, too, were victims of domestic abuse. We are regularly in-formed that domestic violence cuts across classes, with 25 per cent of middle-class sufferers, to 30 per cent of workingclass women. Are all these women, many of whom must be capable of supporting them-selves, unable to resolve their own domestic problems?

ROM the outside, many couples' relationships seem odd, or imbal-anced, or downright nasty, and yet no one internasty, and yet no one inter-feres. There are women who stay with men who use prosti-tutes; women who stay to be insulted by idle male para-sites; women who stay with men who have sex changes, with husbands who acquire a belated appetite for young men, even with men who de-cide to go into politics. In all such cases, it is accepted that the women, as grown-ups, should be allowed to embrace, if they choose, the sources of their grief or discomfiture. Similarly, in Gascoigne's case, we must accept that his

beautiful Sheryl, decided, of her own free will, to marry and reproduce with a repul-sive and barbarically behaved sive and barbarically behaved off who had spent much of their courtship beating her up and frightening her children. "Td grab her by the back of the head, pull her hair back and bang her head." Gascoigne divulged in a 1994 confession. "She'd cry out, 'Stop it' Please stop it' I can't take any more."

any more."

Most of us, I suspect, would have concluded, at length, that this was not Mr Right. Sheryl thought differently. Today she continues to thwart her complaint, and inviting no police action. It's baffling and a bit disappointing. It does not mean, however, that Shery should be treated like a child

and saved from herself.

Of course, if some cam-paigners had their way, and society ceased to tolerate all domestic violence. Sheryl would not need to act. Police, doctors and social workers would see to that. Similarly, all those Guardian readers — and there must be at least 25 per cent of them — who are said to be victims of domestic violence would have to need to violence, would have to accept that the police might one day come knocking on their doors, invited or not. Some women would be relieved. Others, like the unfortunate men in the Operation Spanner sado-mas-ochism case, might find that what they find privately bear-

what they into privately bear-able, or even desirable, the state deems filegal. In fact, assaulting anybody is against the law; if there really are women, or men, who do not want to bring the state into their personal relationships, who has the right to force them? Those who say they know better are playing nanny — and every-body knows what bullies they

both providers and parents who have trespassed across the private threshold into the public realm.

They have never enjoyed

economic equality with men, nor domestic democracy, and their ambitions for economic and time — equality were swiftly exhausted by the inauguration of Thatcherism at the end of the 70s. But the revolution ran and ran — by being everywhere and doing everything, mothers have ex-posed the bad faith at the core of current political

The problem is not unruly womanhood — she who nokes in the street, she who brings in the money, chooses the videos, plans the holidays and cleans the toilet - because working women are doing what women have always done. Only more so. Modern working mothers in Britain actually spend more time with their children than fighting his way up through the full-time homemakers of local government almost to the 50s - the golden age of the top. ary m myths of the conservative communitarians and the freemarketeers.

When Thatcherism ended our brief encounter with egalitarianism, it endorsed not only a cult of exploitation, but men's passive resis-tance to parenting, particularly among the opinion-forming strate, middle-class

British men work the longest hours in Europe. Longer and longer. But according to the recent Rowntree Foundation research on parenting. British women work the shortest hours and parents have the least access to public childcare.

What this tells us is that the most de-regulated society ised: far from flexibility encouraging greater domestic democracy, it has re-inforced old identities and atavistic polarisations, both between men and women and between public and private. The row about the European directive, shadowed by research revealing middle-class men's dren, ought to revitalise a movement to model the modern worker on the most ma-ligned worker — the parttime woman. Only she confounds that imaginary separation between public and private, because only she unites waged work with the world of children. Only she takes care of others as well as with those supposedly separate spheres no longer match the way we live. Women are she should be our role model.

the European Court of Justice has acted to help the interests of British business constant theme that the constant theme that the minimum wage, the social chapter, and now the working-time directive all cost jobs — normally voiced by such "employment-con-cerned" bodies as the Institate of Directors, or really caring individuals like Sir James Goldsmith on his anti-European crusade.

Jobs get destroyed through financially driven mergers and acquisitions, downsizing, low investment bad training, the pursuit of short-term-profit goals, high dividend payments and poor management. So my message to the politicians is this: get on with the real business of working with our European partners to extend the single market. By all means help them to confuse those with the minimum standards of decency

Meddle with Widmerpool at your peril



■HE report in the London Evening Standard was thick with unintentional menace. Channel 4. it said, persisting where even Potter and Trodd had turned back, was at work on the serialisation of Anthony Powserialisation of Anthony Pow-ell's 12-volume sequence A Dance To The Music Of Time. The project would cost £9 mil-lion. Alan Bennett and John Gielgud had been hired, along with a stranger to television. Simon Russell Beale. in the role of Kenneth Widmerpool. The adapter, Hugh White-more, planned to be bold. He was carving the novels down was carving the novels down to just four instalments; and, because so much of the action in Powell takes place in parin Powell takes place in par-ties and drawing rooms, was developing on-screen inci-dents only hinted at in the books. That is where I began to feel queasy. But more omi-nous still was an observation attributed to Russell Beale. widtherpool — by far the most dominant character in the story — was based, he'd been told, on Herbert

I hope by now someone has disabused him. If he hasn't, this series will prove the biggest disaster since Rhodes. True. Widmerpool becomes a Labour MP, a minister under Attlee, and, after he loses his seat in the 1955 election, a Labour life peer, but Morri-son he is not, by 1,000 miles. Though perhaps better known nowadays as Peter Mandel-son's granddad, Morrison deputy leader to Attlee, and beaten for the succession by Gaitskell in 1955 — had something of Widmerpool's mon-strous will, but there the resemblance ceases. Widmerpool's origins seem humble to those around him at school (which seems to be Eton) but his circumstances are still im-possibly grand compared to those of Morrison, one of ten children from Brixton, start-ing out as an errand boy, fighting his years up the stock

Morrison.

Herbert Morrison in Anthony Powell — not major characters, anyway. Apart from the wartime sequences, the working classes scarcely exist except in minor inventions like Lord Erridge's malevo-lent butler, Smith, who anyway owes more to Charles Addams than to reality. That's one of the reasons why some people of taste and discernment recoil from these books with a shudder. Powell, they cry, is a snob (an allegation hard to dispute if one's | to stick to the books.

read his diaries). He's a social snob, but also a literary snob, far too keen on displaying his deep acquaintance with writers no normal person has read. Does one really want to waste one's time on a world full of aristocratic parties in Eaton Square where everyone seems obsessed with the Hon Frederica Tolland taking up — at her age! — with someone like Dicky Umfraville?

Well, oddly enough, 1 do. Not for Frederica Tolland and Dicky Umfraville, but for so many others in Powell's abun-dant gallery: the cheerfully melancholic minor composer Hugh Moreland; his depressive friend the critic Maclin-tick and Maclintick's termagant wife; the eccentric peer Alf Erridge; the appalling, ir-resistible, super-hussy Pame-la Flitton, whose excesses make Fergie look like Mother Teresa and who (stretching gradulity) auddenly market credulity) suddenly marries Widmerpool. They may not be true to life, but they echo life, and the way as one ages one senses the ultimate outcome of people first encountered when young. If some of Pow-ell's characters undergo metamorphosis, so do people in real life too. Who would ever have guessed that Bernard Ingham, that staunch York-shire socialist colleague of my early days on the Guardian, would have ended his life as a Thatcher trusty and a columnist in the rightwing press?

Which brings us back, as always with The Music of Time, to the metamorphosis of Widmerpool — first seen looning up through the fog on a solitary run on page three of the first of these books, "in a sweater once white and a cap at least a size too small, hobbling unevenly, though with determination, on the flat beels of spiked running shoes": a paradigm, this, of a life which is going to propel him from early buffoonship into solemn, pompous power and authority, but will end in a humiliation and death at the hands of one whose will is even stronger than his.

ECAUSE Widmerpool B is so formidable a creation, there's a danger that television will transform The Music Of Time into The Widmerpool Story: adding to all those first-name movies now in our cinemas (Emma; Jude; Jack) a work that is basically Ken. As for the model, that is no longer a mystery. People used to believe it was Longford, a theory denounced that Longford himself had been putting around that story. Lord Rees-Mogg has also been mentioned: that's ally the author revealed that the nearest thing to a model was a civil servant (who once worked in the Cabinet Office) called Denis Cuthbert Capel Dunn, If Beale is seeking a template, that is where he



Beatrix Campbell argues that the 48-hour-week row highlights the Government's hypocrisy over 'the family', while below an employer welcomes the plans

Worlds apart

power-struggle be-tween men, women and the state which defines not only public but private life. Mr Major's mission to Exocet the European directive on the 48-hour working week may appease his Euro-scep-tics, and thus appear to re-unite his party. But it will not excite organised employ-ers and — worse — it will expose his party once again to the charge that it speaks ons. It is about identity, it is with forked tongue about about the relations between

politics of pay — not only about exploration, reveal an aching but it is also what has made men visitors to the women and children they live with and children they live with. Resistance to regulation is an alibi. Working time, like waged work itself, has always been the object of state intervention: apart from restraining excessive exploitation, it has shaped the modern templates of masculinity and femininity.

That is why regulation of working time is so dangerous. It is about identity; it is

HE POLITICS of time is the boundary between | into a fin de siècle moral cru- market bustling with men, time — unlike the private and public life. It is sade which masks a problem women and children became with no name: the new man reincarnated as a middle-class Andy Capp. The de-reg-ulators suffer from historical amnesia as well as economic essentialism. For them the family is a firm and women's exile from other firms — the ones that pay — is an evolu-tionary fit. This is where Charles Darwin and Adam Smith meet. But history reproaches their notion of natural order.

The breadwinner in whose image and interests the long working week was fashioned is a relatively recent invenamily values.

genders and generations is a relatively recent invention. This is because working which have exploded afresh tion. What was once a labour

children were purged in the name of protection. The 19thcentury state produced the polarisation between fulltime and part-time, waged and unwaged, male and fe-male workers. It was always bout power; it produced me as privileged providers and women as parents. That process drew an imaginary boundary between public and private which now haunts po-litical discourse because the arrangements associated with those supposedly sepa-rate spheres no longer match

A question of decency

Robert Bischof ***************

HE EU's working-time directive is, we hear, going to drive compa-nies' costs up and force some out of business. In fact the so-called "48-hour week" will have little or no is miles from the truth. For impact on all but the most exploitative employers. British business has nothing to fear. The rules in the directive are highly flexible and allow for many excep-tions. The Working Time Directive cannot actually stop any workers working over 48 hours in a week if they agree to do so. Even these rules do not apply to a wide range of jobs, including transport

workers, trainee doctors. fishermen, managing executives and family workers.

The directive also gives workers other rights: one

break if the working day is longer than six hours. These parts of the plan are also subject to a range of exemptions. Big deal!

Talk of the these rules crippling company profits or costing thousands of jobs most British companies the new rules will make little difference to existing working patterns, and any poten-tial conflicts can be resolved through discussions with

At Boss, as at the vast majority of now foreign-owned companies in manufacturing and servicing. who are contributing so much to the improvement in Britain's performance, one politely requests one's workforce to do overtime and it has not once been

day off a week, and a rest | want to be able to "force" their employees and workers to do overtime anyway Certainly not the best of British companies. That is not the way to get quality work consistently from your workforce. Additionally, excessive overtime — with its 50 per cent cost penalty — is more often than not the result of poor resource planning (in other words, poor management).

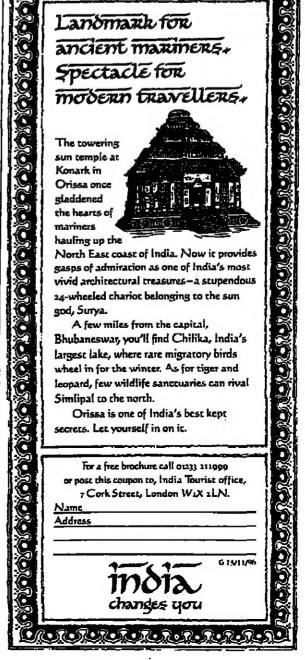
> N a normal 38-hour week, the 10 addi-tional hours give management an extra 26 per cent flexibility to play with. If that is not enough, they should not only politely request it, they should go an a management-training

We mustn't allow a politi-

by opening up new markets, creating more jobs. The European Court pressured the Italians to repeal a new huxmy-car tax which ex-cluded Jaguar cars from Italy. The Spanish have been forced to allow the sale of British chewing gum, and the Greeks now allow the sale of British manufac-tured drinks. The Belgian, Irish and Italian governments now face Court action to open up public-procure-ment contracts to companies from other countries. The European single market has given British companies equal access to continental markets for the first time. The European Court ensures that single-market rules are implemented evenhandedly. Just imagine if we had to rely to domestic courts to implement and enforce EU rules: the recal row about one decision would be chaos, and the to obscure the fact that on eventual break-up of the What kind of managers many occasions in the past single market. That really the manufacturing group Boss

Robert Bischof is chairman of

in industrial relations.



In tune with pop and jazz

DDIE Harris, the at the height of the swing era, saxophonist and and grew up in the rising composer who has died aged 62, was piano as a child, and sang in died aged 62, was the kind of jazz musician whose career path in-vites the cultivation of a thick

hide.
A fine saxophonist with a broad, soulful tone, sharp originality of line and an irrepressible curiosity about technical development — he pioneered various reed trumpets and electric saxes — Har-ris was nonetheless labelled by the more inflexible jazz co-1970s as a sell-out artist who

The best-known stick Har-ris was beaten with was his 1960 million-selling recording of the theme from the movie Exodus, a triumph that probably blighted rather than illuminated bis career. Later judgments established how jaundiced these views had

Many musicians came to credit Harris's style and teachings - he was an enthusiastic producer of music textbooks — several of his compo-sitions have proved to be of enduring value, and some of the jazz/pop crossover tech-niques he pioneered are now

Baptist church choirs with his cousin. It was as a teenage pianist that he made his first professional appearances. virtuosic saxophonist Gene Ammons. During the 1950s he was in the US Army, touring Europe with the 7th Army

departure from the military, and the result of a mixture of such early commercial suc-cess and dismissal by the purist jazz community was that Harris felt driven to the margins of the musical world to which he really belonged. So

many forms. Harris liked merging pop and jazz forms in his writing, believing that since the roots of such genres were closely intertwined it made no sense to treat their evolution as separate. Following Exodus Harris wrote the superb, lyrical yet urgently rhythmic Freedom Jazz Dance, recorded by Miles Davis in the mid-1960s and by more than 30 other artken for granted. ists since. The tune even be-Harris was born in Chicago came a dance-club anthem for

Symphony Orchestra.
The Exodus hit followed his

show, his own way.
This independence took

In the mid-1970s he moved to the West Coast, where his



Harris also turned his inge-nuity towards making a tech-nological mark. He constantly invented new hybrid instruments. like the "saxo-

bone" (an electric sax with a trombone mouthpiece), the reed trumpet, and a variety of electric and synthesiser-aided

ability to write intelligent

the new jazz audience that turned on to the music in the late 1980s.

Harris also turned his ingenuity towards making a technology. tues of electronics: "amplifithe most influential of jazz-loving showbiz patrons — and his songs from the period in-cluded Please Let Me Go, Ten Minutes to Four and Eddle your lifespan because you don't have to exert yourself as Things didn't pan out that

Sings the Blues. recent years, with smaller jazz-driven groups, his virtu-oso skills were plain to hear, as they were when he played London's Dingwalls club a Harris once told the writer could understand the opposi-tion to his innovations be-

sition upon change." He also ways a serious musician in-expressed a pragmatic opin-ion about less celebrated vir-peared to be a frivolous or inpeared to be a frivolous or in-substantial one, it was the unforgiving nature of some sections of the jazz audience that made him so. Irrevocable changes in the post-1970s jazz world have made his point for

ities, including Francoise Sagan and Gipsy Rose Lee, though this film was never

D'Arbeloff also had a

lighter side: Report on Love, a short film he produced com-

bining animation with live

action, was a gently mocking view of the Kinsey Report on

American sexual behaviour. It won an award at the

Alexander d'Arbeloff died in London where he had lived

for the past 15 years, sur-rounded by his family, his wife Blanche, their three chil-

dren and grandchildren. His funeral at the Russian Ortho-dox Cathedral in Ennismore

Gardens was in a sense a return to the homeland that

Cannes Film Festival.

Fred Lipmann

A watch on the workers

IP. C'EST fini. fini,'' said Prime Minister Pierre Messmer in 1974, after riot police temporarily halted a staff sit-in at the watch factory in Besanon. But Lip was not really fin-ished until Saturday, when its former managing director, Fred Lipmann, died aged 91. In the intervening years, as Lip became the scene of the longest industrial dispute in modern French history. Messmer's words were drowned out by the worker-cry of "Lip, Lip, hurrah".

Fred Lipmann, who had retired from the family firm in 1971, was an undisputed influence on the 1,300 workers who occupied the Lip factory for eight years after it went into liquidation in 1973.

In his 32 years as managing director of the company founded by his grandfather, he had created a shrine to the watch on the factory site, a few kilometres from the Swiss border. He also in-spired an extraordinary degree of staff loyalty. "I never use the word boss. And I never accept thanks from anyone. A company chief does not give anything. He sets out to exchange toil and expertise for salaries," he

As well as paying salaries which were higher than most workers expected, he introduced the first production line in a French factory, and the first creche, In 1952 he launched Electronic, the first watch in the world which did not need to be wound. He gave one to Charles de Gaulle for Christmas; it travelled the world and featured in virtually all photographs of the general. The president of the French Academy of Sciences described the Lip Electronic as "the most important inno-vation since clockwork".

Born in Besanon in 1905, Fred was the grandson of Manuel Lipmann, who founded the company in 1887. A disap-pointing pupil, he falled his baccalaureat and was sent to Besanon's watchmaking

Fascinated by everything mechanical, he tinkered with cars and motorbikes and was sent, in his twenties, to the US. Returning to France, he took over the company from his father, Ernest, and had a motto painted on the factory wall: "Imagination is more mnortent then knowledge Frail, short and with a glass eye due to a skiing accident, Lipmann was an ideas man -

a family trait since Ernest, in 1904, had asked Pierre and Marie Curie to find him a watchface material which would glow in the dark. But if the Electronic watch gave Swiss competitors pause for thought in the 1950s, Lip

could not compete with Ja pan's intention to make

the company's sales grew by just 3 per cent a year against 10 per cent for the watch sector in general. Lip's share of the French market declined from 20 per cent to 7 per cent. In 1971, aged 66. Lipmann sold the company to the longtime enemy. Switzerland. Under Ebauches SA the situation worsened until Lip went into liquidation in 1973 with debts of 60 million francs (26 million). Loyal to their com-pany after years of reading Lipmann's motto Lip's 1,300

staff occupied the factory. stan occupied the factory.

They impounded 65,000 watches which they sold all over Europe to supporters, who thought the Lip occupation was 1968-come-true.

Trade uniquists they allow Trade unionists travelled from across the continent to the emblematic sit-in. The workers subsisted until early 1974 on the fighting fund raised from selling the watches. The French government injected 7 million francs, but the lifeline ran out in March 1975.

The workers created a co-operative, Les Industries de

Brit

dro

lega

aga



Lipmann . . . shrine to time

Palente, which limped on until 1984 when bankruptcy struck again. Finally rescued in 1991 by a French precisiontool maker, Lip now has fewer than 200 staff.

Had Lipmann bailed out just when the going got rough? Or might the company, had he stayed on, have thrived under his vision and enthusiam?

According to Charles Piaget, the CFDT union leader who led the Lip workers in their most militant days, Lipmann was a ruthless busi-nessman with too many blind spots. Piaget, now aged 68. said: "He was capable of signing union agreements which really improved working conditions. But he was also extremely difficult to live with - very tough, abnormally tough on his entourage. He could also be very frightening and thought nothing of ridiculing health inspectors who came to investigate serious problems."

Alex Duval Smith

Fred Lipmann, watchmaker.

Alexander d'Arbeloff

Restless search for the broader horizons

great length and the astonishing variety of cultural and entrepreneurial projects into which be threw himself, ranging from motion pictures through major road develop-ments to philosophical books.

Born in Koutais, Georgia, into a family descended from Moscow. As a young man, he served for a time as assistant to the Governor in Baku. As was the case with so many others of his generation and background, the political upheavals in Russia forced d'Arbeloff and his family into extie and he settled at first in

In 1924 he founded Rodina the Russian word for fatherland), a company initially concerned with motion picformed into a production

a Russian exile) became involved. Grinieff was already working in film production and closely associated with Abel Gance, whose master-piece Napoleon the SGF nurtured and acquired.

D'Arbeloff moved into other fields, wrote two novels: Il la raison, both published by **Editions Jacques Haumont** 1932-33, under the pseudonym Alexandre Darlaine. He married Blanche, a young Parisian milliner and created a magazine of current affairs, Audace, which pioneered innovative techniques of photo-montage. But d'Arbe-loff's restless search for broader horizons was to take

By a combination of chance, research and imagi-nation he formulated a bold

HE LIFE of Alexander organisation with a new idea: studying a map of South d'Arbeloff, who has name, Société Générale de America, he noted the fact died aged 101, was impressive both for its cousin Jacques Grinieff (also guay had no outlets for its products and decided that what this country needed was a major road to Brazil. Never one to be held back by doubts or details, he set off for the capital, Asunción, armed only with the persuasive power of his personality and unshake able belief in his idea. The President of Paraguay, Esti-garribia, who had been educated in the United States, gave d'Arbeloff his full support and entrusted to him the organisation of this major

project. Elated, d'Arbeloff purchased a 120-acre property outside Asuncion, designed a ranch style house large enough for his family and also his brother's family and two sets of grandparents who arrived soon after. Then he got on with setting up the road project, which involved several excursions into the



d'Arbeloff . . . persuasive

lungle. Despite many setbacks, including the death of Estigarribia in an air crash (sabotage was suspected), the road was eventually

completed.

By then d'Arbeloff and his family had moved to the US. in due course becoming naturalised American citizens. But d'Arbeloff maintained | several well known personal-links with South America, | ities, including Françoise returning frequently to initiate and oversee other development projects. During the war be worked for an American shipbuilding company, Heat Transfer Ltd. With the passing years,

d'Arbeloff's projects tended to reflect more the philosophithat had characterised his early years in earle. In 1951, his book The Word Accomplished (under the pseudonym AB Christopher) was published by the Philosophical Library in New York. A po-etic reinterpretation of the Christian message, it was compared to the work of Kha-III Gibran.

In 1953, d'Arbeloff directed an experiment in interna-tional understanding in Florence, titled Contrastland. Later, he wrote and conducted a series of filmed psy-chological interviews, Who Do You Think You Are? with

Phillip Pilkington

his spirit had never left.

Alexander d'Arbeloff, entrepre-neur; born October 21, 1895; died October 30, 1996

quartz the worldwide stan-dard. Between 1962 and 1970

born November 2, 1905; died No-

Tim Gidal

Visual novella master

tion of photojournalists who created press photography's interwar heyday. Yet it was only in the mid-1970s that he achieved an international in the late 1920s and early

1830s an era begun, journalis-tically with the great Munich and Berlin-based illustrated manazines, and technologically with the development of the 35mm camera, particu-larly the Leica. After the Nazi takeover Britain inherited

and economics from Munich to Berlin and thence to Basle, where he obtained his doctor ate in 1935. It was an unusual combination of interests but stood him in good stead later. What better background colossal visual 1988 history of The Jews in Germany from Roman Times to the Weimar Republic? It was published in his native Munich in a run of

15,000, and immediately went

into a reprint of 40,000. It is a

died aged 87, was one of 1936. He had pursued his distinction that general rupted studies in art history own limited funds into a He-Throughout his professiona

taking photographs and writ-ing books. In 1938 he joined the staff of Picture Post, founded by Hungarian editor Stefan Lorant, a fellow refugee. He then served as a chief staff reporter on Parade maga-zine, serving with the British 8th Army in North Africa and the Mediterranean, and the 14th Army in China, Burma, India and the Middle East. His images went into two retro-spectives, Tim Cidal's 1930s Born to Russian Jewish the publishing industry and spectives, Tim Gidal's 1930s parents in Munich, Gidal left | Gidal's tenacity that he was and The 1940s, shown in Jeru-

In 1947 he had returned to academic study in Switzerland, Britain and the US. He worked as a freelance photog-rapher in Israel and England, as editorial consultant to Life magazine in its 1950s heyday. and as senior lecturer and as-sociate professor at New York's New School for Social Research from 1955-58. He emigrated to Jerusalem for good in 1970, becoming professor of the history of visual commu nication at the Hebrew University from 1971-1987. In 1992 ne was made an honorary fellow of Britain's Royal Photographic Society.

From the upbeat Bilderber-

ichter - Stattung und Presse (Picture reporting and the Press, 1935), through many projects on the emergent is-raeli nation, often focused on kibbutzim and children, and a propagandist This is Israel

every subject that mattered to him was made into reportage. He also wrote the definitive 1972 Modern Photojournalism. Origin and Evolution. Which featured a sizeable number of his own images, from Ham-burg whores to the religious at Jerusalem's Walling Wall. Gidal's real passion was a private, if not a secret one. He documented what he termed variations of the everlasting theme of the tragi-comedy of human life". He refused to explain his technique, describ-ing it as "directed ... more by

This "participation" is akin to what, in later debates on the documentary validity of photojournalism, has been tivity. To Tim Gldal, it was a "mystique," dependent on an encounter due either to the

intuition and participation

than by formal composition.

salem, London and New York | with Robert Capa (1948), to interaction or the under-in 1975 and in 1981. | The Freudians (Munich 1990), | standing of the photographer standing of the photographer and his subject. And poles apart from the more fashion-able conceptual images. At times intemperate and

irritable, certain of the worth of his own undertakines and the worthlessness of certain others, Tim Gidal was a massual novella. Adroit at fashioning both words and images, the essay was his nat-ural form, by turns humorous and searing. In his later years, his immense erudition and researches were tirelessly assisted by his accond wife, Pia Karp. He is sur-vived by both Pla and his son from a previous marriage to Sonia Epstein.

Amanda Hopkinson Tim (Gldalewitsch) N Gidal, photojournalist, born May 18, 1909; died October 4, 1996

Letter ******************

Professor Graham Owens prites: Your obituary of Bokassa (November 5) might have added that his selfcrowning as Emperor (paid for by France) cost up to £20 million. His crown, containing 5,000 jewels, was £2.75 million; his wife's gown incorpo-rated a million pieces of gold.

Birthdays

The Most Rev Dr George Carey, Archbishop of Canter-bury, 51; Adrienne Corri, actress, 65; Joan Lestor, Labour MP, 65; Alexandra Shulman, editor, Vogue, 39; Sir Donald Thompson, Conservative MP, 65; Howard Wilkinson, football manager,

Death Notices

BALL, Simon aged 39, Senior Lecturer in Environmental) Law at the University of Sheffleid; Co-lounder of Sheffleid Steelers Larcosec Club. Died suddenly on Saturday 9 November 1996. Funeral et City Road Crymitionium, Sheffleid et 12.45pm on Fri-day 15th, Reception elemento at Stephan-son Hell, Oedholm Road, Sheffleid 19, All wsicome. No flowers please, Donatons to WaterAid, 27-29 Albert Embankment, London, 351 945.

ZDEGERN, Carolla, beloved wite of Maurities and mother of Chine, much loved and respected fauther at the European School, Karlerunie, Germany, in Karlsruhe on 5th November, 1995, pagestuffy, following a struggle with cancer, A tribute will take place in the school.

PTO place your armouncement telephone 0171 713 4967. Pax 0171 713 4123.

Jackdaw



Bad forecast

"COMPUTERS in the future may weigh no more than 1.5 tons." Popular Mechanics. forecasting the relentless march of science, 1949. "I think there is a world market for maybe five com-

puters." Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM, 1943. "I have travelled the length and breadth of this country and talked with the best people, and I can assure you that won't last out the year.' The editor in charge of business books for Prentice Hall,

But what . . . is it good for?" Engineer at the Advanced Computing Systems Division of IBM, 1968, commenting on the microchip. "There is no reason anyone would want a computer in

ident, chairman and founder of Digital Equipment Corp., The wrong pledges from the cyber listserver. Thanks to lichael Jovic.

Paper protrude

ONE night while dining, a comrade described this Japanese game where men would put little paper puppets on their penises. The practice is called kokigami and she said she had a book about it at her store. So as fast as a polyester shirt beads water. I picked up a copy of Heather Busch and Burton Silver's book, Kokigami, and began my exploration of presenting my pack-

age, Japanese style.
To the Japanese, sexual happiness was considered a human right, and men ex-plored everything they could sires. So it is not unusual that the curious art of wrapping

the penis in a paper costume evolved from this sexually enlightened populace. Kokigami originated in 8th cen-tury Japan and it has its roots within the art of Tsutsumi, or packaging, which was solely a practice of Japanese aristocrats. Men wrapped their organs with silks and ribbons in complex and intricate designs and upon entering the bed chamber they offered them as gifts to their lovers. The more complex he could make the wrapping the more be was rewarded by physical sensations as his lover care fully unwrapped her prize. One day the emphasis on sheer physical pleasure was transformed into a more sophisticated training of through mental control. Thus the beginning practice By the 12th century, after Japan's great golden era of artistic development, Kokigam had become firmly established within the elite as a path to sensual enlightenment. However, it was not until the 18th century, when

the price of paper fell, that

Kokigami ceased to be the exclusive practice of the aristo-cratic class. Today every social strata of Japanese society partakes in the pleasure of wrapping their "packages" in over 600 types of paper ani-mals, spirits and things. A new form of Christmas present perhaps? At www.lumpen.com

Brits best

15 THINGS we think are British: Monopoly (American) Baked beans (American) Jacob's Cream Crackers (French) Hush Puppies (American) The Royal Family (German) Cornflakes (American) Curry (Indian) Rizlas (French) Fords (American) Biros (French) Chips (Belgian) Black pudding (Italian) (Irish) Elgin Marbles (Greek) British embarrassments British Leyland

Anthea Turner Eldorado Nick Rhodes Dorma Bungalows British things:

Golden Virginia Question time Chopper bikes Ronson lighters 20 B&H GQ on Brits good and had.

Tough toff

POSH country girls, espe-cially ones who ve relocated to the big city, never have any money — their fathers are completely skint after shelling out thousands on crippling school fees and repairs to their dilapidated houses. Their sex life is a game of two halves. While they are at boarding school posh girls are like caged ani mais, salivating at any man who walks his dog across the hockey field. This predatory period continues during early university years and the first few years away from home, then peters out rapidly during their married life. After 30, posh girl is too em-broiled in charities and school runs for sex. Posh girls tend to lack emotion and invention. When it comes to passion, the country posh girls are a bit like their

Posh girls are not necess: ily a man's meal ticket to an easy life. They might have double-barreled surnames, but neither of those barrels



seems to have any cash in it —all Daddy's money is tied up in Lloyd's. The ones with the real wedge are the Kensington kit-

tens who cruise Sloane Street in their convertibles. Who do you think keeps the London branches of Joseph, Prada and Gucci afloat? It's the Camilla Folkestone-Hovercrafts of Kensington and Chelsea spending Daddy's tax refund on a pair of hipsters. This doesn't mean she'll pay for dinner, though. Urban posh girl is high maintenance. She wants her man to be even richer than her dad, and this certainly rules out men like

But as I continued my pre-marital social surfing, taking out the odd Delphina Fotherington-Smythe and air kissing my way through many a soigné SW3 party, the battalions of Aramintas, Camillas and Tamaras would blur into each other and become one big Camillaratamara, and I had to ask myself young man, do you really want to end up with an expensive girl whose Christian name sounds like a chip

dip?

Simon Mills asks whether the Camilias of the world are really

No control

HENRY Good, a UK financial printing company, has been writing to customers to offer its services as a top quality ter starts with: "In todays (sic) competetive (sic) enviro-ment (sic) . . . (Three errors in the first four words? Pretty bad, especially from native speakers of English.)

The letter says that the co-pany pledges "strict quality control measures" to "it's (sic) buisness (sic) customers". The company's slogan is: "Henry Good -- The Buisness (sic) printer". The South China Morning Post reports on slipping stan-

Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mall jackdaw@guordian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London ECIR 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

Telephone: 0171-239-9610

Fax: 0171-833-4456

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer

Finance Guardian

PIA critic quits watchdog

Pensions review behind protest

DIRECTOR of the Personal Investment Authority yesterday quit un-expectedly in pro-test at the way the financial services watchdog is handling the review of the personal pensions mis-selling fiasco. Denis Brown, who has been a PIA director since its

because of the regulator's in-sistence on checking the professional indemnity insur-ance policies of 3,000 firms of independent financial

Mr Brown believes the check, which will involve passing privileged informa-tion to the PIA, will invali-date the firms' insurance and so drive them into liqui-dation if faced with a num-ber of compensation alexa-

private plan.

The PIA yesterday confirmed Mr Brown's surprise resignation, but denied that the terms of its review — now dragging into its third year — would invalidate a financial adviser's indemnity insurance, which covers the firm against negligence.

A spokesman for the PIA said: "The PIA has taken extensive legal advice and

tensive legal advice and doesn't accept that its monitoring arrangements will in-validate professional indemnity insurance."
The board will discuss a replacement for Mr Brown when it meets next month. The review of personal pensions mis-selling has been dogged by delays and wrapped in controversy since it was first announced by the Securities and Investments Board, the chief financial reg-

board, the chief thanctal reg-ulator, in October 1994.
Even though SIB identified a possible 1.5 million cases where investors were given the wrong advice, only a handful of people have so far received compensation. Fig-ures from a leaked PIA docu-ment indicate that less than ser million has been offered £27 million has been offered in redress. The total bill is estimated at over £2 billion. SIB's chairman, Andrew Large, is today expected to unveil plans to speed up the review process, which has been slowed by a series of court challenges and a num-

well as the reluctance of occupational pensions to provide information about their for-

review partly prompted the Office of Fair Trading to institute in September a far reaching inquiry into personal

The bulk of the mis-selling was carried out by the sales-men of life insurance compa-nies and the insurance arms of the banks, while indepen-dent financial advisers, who are not tied to any single com-pany, account for no more than a third of the total cases, according to early estimates by SIB.

Although the PIA has taken

their tardinass in handling the review, it has fined and reprimanded more than 20 in-dependent firms for failure to return documentation.

In addition, another City watchdog, Imro, last month fined four of the biggest independent brokers a total of £405,000 for a series of rule breaches when advising 14,000 to quit their company pension schemes.

Mr Brown, who previously

defunct regulator Fimbra, a predecessor to the PIA, repre-sented independent firms with fewer than 10 registered advisers. An ardent critic of the pensions review, Mr Brown was unavailable for comment yesterday.

Notebook

Sceptics left in cold over EMU



Patrick Donovan

RCH-Eurosceptic John Redwood may enjoy growing support within the Tory back benches. But he won little applause in chilly Harrogate yesterday as he at-tempted to harangue indus-irial leaders with his apoplectic views about the dangers of a single European currency. The widening gulf between

the likes of Mr Redwood and the Confederation of British Industry underlines how the Government is in danger of losing the argument over the EMU with the people who really matter — the men and women who actually run the companies which drive the Of course there are dangers

if EU member countries "cheat" over convergence cri-teria needed to set up a single currency. Obviously, this could lead to huge problems over the medium term Bank of England governor Eddie George, spelled out to the CBI conference yesterday.

But listen to the debate carefully and it is clear that Britain's biggest and most powerful companies are far more enthusiastic about the opportunities provided by EMU. Nor did yesterday's controversy over the European Court of Justica's ruling that Britain Justice's ruling that Britain must accept the restriction of a 48-hour working week ap-pear to kindle controversy. First, the estimated

£2 billion-a-year costs of this kind of restriction are not ma-terial in the scale of industry's overheads generally. Second, big companies are confident of being able to get around many the legislation because the defmition of what constitutes a working week is so wooly.

Yesterday's debate was important because it highlighted the central flaw in most Eurosceptic's argument against a single European currency -the risk to Britain's sover-Commissioner Peter Suther-land clearly spoke for many when he argued that Britain had already conceded the principle of sovereignty when Mrs Thatcher originally agreed to sign the Single European Act. And without a single currency, in the longer term there will be no Single European Market, he says. We are seeing a very danger-ous conflict building up be-tween Government and business over the entire question of BMU. But of course this is for any party to address in the politically sensitive run-up to

Mortgage jitters

HE spectre of sharply rising mortgage rates hollow ring for shareholders has been raised by the of this extraordinarily accident-prone company.

day to jack up its home-loan rate by a quarter of a percent-age point. The move, which comes just days after similar action by the Birmingham Midshires, is had news for its one million customers. And it has certainly sent the jitters around the financial services sector as Nationwide com-mands around 8 per cent of the entire British mortgage market.

But this does not mean that mortgage rates generally are yet ready to rise off the but-tom. The important thing to remember about Nationwide is that its rates were already 0.5 per cent below the rest of the home-loan industry. It has now appeared to accept that this kind of differential is unsustainable over the longer term — even though its increase to 6.74 per cent is still more competitive than the industry's average loan rate of 6.99 per cent. It would be more accurate to interpret the move as the abandonment of an overly ambitious marketing move rather than any im-mediate response to the cost

Nevertheless, any move by a lender as big as Nationwide is bound to focus minds on the prospect of further increases. This will inevitably lead to less generous terms on other incentive deals. Lend-ers can just about cope with the recent 0.25 per cent hike in base rates. But any further rise in the cost of borrowed money will make mortgage rate increases inevitable.

Any further round of home loan increases could under-mine brittle confidence in the housing market generally. Not to mention the electorally factor in the election run-up.

So much hot air

BRITISH Gas threatens to sue the government for £1.2 billion, claiming lumbered with unnecessary tax for North sea oil and gas: suit has been exposed as so much bot air. This is an extraordinary about-turn even for British Gas.

A key director of the Trans-Co pipelina business, Harry Moulson, is leaving on an en-tirely unrelated matter of ill-health. But are there not health. But are there not other directors and key personnel who should be reconsidering their position. For the collapse of this high profile and doubtless very expensive court case implies a lack of judgment at the very heart of the company.

The expectation that British Gas could enjoy lucrative tax refunds in negotiations over gas contracts with offshore companies has misled both the City and shareholders. This fruitless battle has undoubtedly diverted management when they should have been concentrating all their energies on the current regulatory row with industry watchdog, Clare Spottiswoode.

"Don't you just love being in control", runs the British Gas advertising slogan. The words are beginning to have a

tive director, who will run TransCo International, the DTI bars more rogue directors

Call for Ofgas to sort out chaos

Council is poised to announce sweeping changes to its funding arrangements and has begun a fundamental review of its structure, writes Chris Barrie. The news came as the Council and the Consumers' Association released a survey that shows widespread confusion among the public over the introduction of competition in the domestic gas market. Director Sue Slipman called on Ofgas to educate to allow them to make payments directly to the Countries of householders ahead of full competition in 1998.

According to the survey. the industry's structure is little understood and too few consumers understand the implications of signing a new contract for gas sup-ply. Arrangements for

under intense pressure to respond to unprecedented levels of complaints about British Gas from the publishing as f The Council remains



lic. Last summer the Council revealed that it was have ing regularly to disconnec its telephones to prevent it being swamped with

Ms Slipman said gas in-Ms Supman sain gas in-dustry regulator Clare Spottiswoode had agreed to change the licences awarded to gas companies ments directly to the Council without running foul of Treasury rules. The new licences are now being drafted. It is understood that British Gas is also close to deciding whether to fund a new call centre for the Council.

ply. Arrangements for transferring customers from British Gas to new suppliers in the South-west pilot area had been inadequate.

The Council remains for the Council Ms Slipman added that the Council was also "on the threshold" of a review of its organisation which has become an anachronism because it is based on



vent people with bad business track records from becoming lirectors in the first place. CCN Business Information which last month revealed that one in eight directors had been involved in a series of company failures, said it was too easy for someone to become a director. Jo Howard, marketing manager of CCN's business information division, called for tougher rules. "All you have to give is your name, address and the date. So tracking down directors who have done the dirty is very difficult."

those who set out the limited company as a way of accum-mulating debts with no intention of repaying them and who move on to form the next company. In these cases it is often the same premises, the same employees and of course the same directors — the same game in another name." The figures show disquali-fled directors frequently came from the fashion, secu-rity, time-share, entertainment and engineering sec-tors. More than 3,600 directors have been disquali-fied since 1996 when the government took new powers to deal with them. But most have only been disqualified for between two and five

years. Only 15 people have been disqualified for the maximum 15 years. Notable cases cited by the DTI include: ment: director Stephen Less disqualified in July 1996 for nine years. His nightclub management company, which went into compulsory liquids tion, was one of 10 companies be controlled which together owed more than 23 million.

Barry Woodman, disqualified in July 1996 for eight years, and Eric Myers, David Kelly, and Melvin Green for seven years. Their machine that dealing experience of the control tool dealing company, Euro-tek, went into compulsory liq-uidation and was one of nine

Ex-Barings executive beats job ban

Roger Cowe

FORMES senior execu tive at Barings Bank yesterday succeeded in overturning attempts by regulators to ban him from working in the City. Lawyers for Ron Baker, the

former Barings director who as head of financial products oversaw rogue trader Nick Leeson, said last night that the independent tribunal hearing the case had dis-missed most of the charges brought by the Securities and Futures Authority. The SFA had claimed that

there was nothing in the allegations against me. I am very pleased that on almost every

count the tribunal has found in my favour." A spokesman for the SFA refused to comment until the full written judgment is delivered in three weeks' time. Both sides will then have 10 days to appeal against the tri-bunal finding. Mr Baker had not been accused of dishonesty or being directly involved in the

the City for three years. Mr
Baker will now be able to seek
another job in the City.

Mr Baker said: "It was important to me to fight this
case, as I have always known
there was nothing in the alle."

SFA criticised his management products group which included Leeson's activities in Singapore, which led to the collapse of the merchant bank.

The SFA told the tribunal that he had not shown due care and diligence in understanding Leeson's trading business in Singapore, and that he had not ensured proper supervision and con-trol of staff. Ultimately they charged

that he was not fit to be a director of the bank. His lawyers said the tribuhis poor management contrib-nted to Barings' collapse and being directly involved in the found against him over his with the SFA, include wanted him banned from collapse of the bank at the be-

exper nim from the register, leaving him free to attempt to find another job in the City.

Mr Baker will have to pay costs of £7,500, but that is only 5 per cent of the total he might have been left with Baker's solicitor, Lindsay Hill, said: "I believe he can record the tribunal's derision. regard the tribunal's decision as a victory. It leaves the way clear for him to resume his

successful career."
Three other Barings' staff face tribunal hearings in the nal found in Mr Baker's next couple of months. Five favour on all these issues. It found against him over his with the SFA, including bans

Disabled dispute threatens building society windfalls

THE Government yester day threatened to destabi-lise the whole building society conversion process by rejecting claims from the industry that windfall bonuses cannot be paid directly to disabled account holders.
MPs are concerned that disabled people, as well as children and others whose accounts are operated by trust-ees, will not benefit from bonuses paid when societies are either sold or convert to bank status. Societies have claimed they must pay windfalls to the first name on an account, whether the money belongs to them or not, partly because the law prevents bo-nuses from being passed di-rectly to the real beneficiary. But social security and dis-abled people's minister, Alis-tair Burt, yesterday denied

this in Parliament. A Trea-sury official added: The soci-eties appear to be giving the impression that paying real beneficiaries would be either impossible or very difficult, but there is nothing at all in

legislation to stop them."

The Halifax building society said last night "Under the present scheme, separate treatment of disabled savers, on a case by case basis, is not possible. Any such individual decision could give rise to a legal challenge to the entire conversion process. More than a third of the adult UK population now have expectations of significant windfalls in 1997. We sincerely hope that these plans will not be disrupted." A spokeswoman for the Ab-bey National, one of the societ-ies at the centre of the row after did not discriminate on grounds of "age, sex, race, reli-gion or state of health."

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS

Australia 2.034 France 8.09 Hong Kong 12.47 India 58.85 Instand 0.9575 Denmark 9.2 Finland 7.39

Italy 2,448
Maits 0.57
Netherlands 2.89
New Zanlend 2.27
Norway 10,12
Portugal 244 00

Portugal 244,00 Turkey 158,842 Saudi Arabia 6.16 USA 1,4170



Chris Berrie

RITISH Gas suffered a double blow yester-day when it was forced to drop a £1.2 billion legal action against the Government and to accept the resignation of a senior executive at its Trans-

Co pipelines business.

The decision to halt litigation against the Department of Trade and Industry spells the end of the energy group's hopes of winning hefty rebates on gas levy payments made in the past 10 years.

The company startled min-isters and the gas industry by issuing writs against the DTI last July, but did not serve them while it considered its position. The writs sought to

recover past payments under the Gas Levy Act of 1981 and covered 24 contracts for gas from eight North Sea fields.
The DTI responded at the time by issuing parallel writs against 27 oil and gas compa-nies which had sold the gas to British Gas. The DTI with-

drew these writs yesterday following the climbdown. Energy minister Lord Fra-ser of Carmyllie said he was pleased the issue had been "put to rest" without litiga-tion. Officials indicated that there had been no negotiation with British Gas. One said: "We always said there was nothing wrong with the legis-lation. Now they have ac-

cepted it."

While admitting that gas levy legislation had been "sp-plied correctly", British Gas denied that its withdrawal amounted to a climbdown. The company said it had been

Bert in

Ma tenta

July to protect any potential claim from being time-barred. had eaten into government goodwill towards the company, it said it would have been "irresponsible" not to have taken the action which had been in the interests of its shareholders. The issues had been "complex" and had been discussed with the DTL
One major North Sea oil operator dismissed the writs as
"a lot of lawyer man-

British Ges is continuing to talk with North Sea compa-nies on the renegotiation of long-term take-or-pay con-tracts, declined to discuss progress of the talks yesterday, claiming they were unconnected to the write.

The legal U-turn comes as

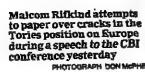
Harry Moulson, 52, is on ex-tended sick leave due to dan-British Gas said his departure was entirely unconnected to the legal action, which concerned a different part of the group. It added that the loss of Mr Moulson's 30 years of experience would not affect its battle at the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to overturn new price and profits caps. This campaign was being led by

Stepping into the breach temporarily will be David Varuey, a British Gas execunew group being formed from pipelines and exploration as part of demerger plans.

deputy chairman Philip



The three Es -- Europe, economy and election - dominate debate as business backs single currency





George derides 'EMU dash'

ROWING business ain to join a single currency was tem pered yesterday Bank of England, Eddle George, attacked Europe's "hectic" dash for monetary union and warned that some "artificial stimulants" to meet the 1999 starting date.

But his strongly sceptical stance — later amplified by leading Tory Eurosceptic, John Redwood — was given short shrift by delegates to gate, with many delegates calling for greater political leadership on the issue and

The governor warned the conference that there were risks that monetary union might be too expansionary for some countries and too defia-

Mr George said the convergence criteria in the Maas-tricht treaty had been designed to limit the risks of divergent economic performance across the European Union. "I doubt whether the architects of the treaty envis-aged the present hectic dash for the line ... and I doubt Rifkind vs Redwood

HE FOREIGN Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, yesterday fried to keep the lid on Conservative divisions over Europe in the face of one of the fiercest attacks yet on the single currency from former leadership challenger John Redwood, write Richard Thomas and Simon Beauls.

Mr Redwood told the CBI a single currency would cause

widespread economic damage and attacked the political ambitions of German leader Helmut Kohl. "Chancellor Kohl wants to build a country called Europe, governed from a city called Brussels, with its economy directed from a bank in Frankfurt," he said.

Asked if he agreed, Mr Rifkind admitted that there were

differences of opinion with the German government, but said Mr Kohl's objectives were honourable. "It is not the language I would have chosen," he said. In a nod to the party's Eurosceptic wing, he stressed that the option of a single currency remained open and he cast

doubt over whether the first wave of countries would be able to form a monetary union in 1999. Refusing to be drawn on whether Britain should sign up, Mr Rifkind said that an active role in Europe was one of

the four pillars of UK foreign policy.

Mr Redwood criticised the whole EMU project as disastrous for British business. "Joining a single currency is like being in the RRM, but throwing away the key having locked the door. We would never get out again."

tempted to take artificial likely to diverge in a serious stimulants in order to get way, it could "give rise to there." He said that the benefits of

exchange-rate certainty and lower transaction costs had to be balanced against the possibility that a single interest rate might not be compatible with the domestic economic whether they envisaged that needs of individual countries.

It would be better, in that case, for each country to pur-sue anti-inflationary policies outside monetary union. Peter Sutherland, a former

European Commissioner and

possibly, persistently higher

currently chairman of Goldcurrently chairman of Gold-man Sachs, said that the single market would fall with-out a single currency and de-rided Eurosceptics for cling-ing to arguments about sovereignty that had already been conceded. "I firmly be-lieve that the internal market demands a single currency demands a single currency and without one will ulti-mately face a crisis of major proportions."

Sir David Simon, chairman of BP, echoed his warnings cribing devaluation as the "illusion that you're still scoring runs by shortening

Sir John Hoskyns, chair-man of the Burton group, warned that EMU could cost retailers across Europe alone £22 billion to adjust their business for a single cur-rency, which he described as the biggest defensive merger

But the goal of EMU was the result of "political ambicounting. It is power pollities. We should certainly be
grateful that the Prime Minister negotiated an opt out
because we are not were

and moustry generally.

Andrew Buxton, chairman
counter-inflationary mechacounter-inflationary mechanism. It feeds through into locked into this doomed

enterprise."
But few delegates speaking from the floor agreed. And the majority view was that moves to a single currency would be

Clarke's loan rate policy rejected

Larry Elliott Economica Editor

RE CBI yesterday called on the Chancellor to use his Budget rather than interest rates to clamp down on consumer spending.
Business leaders said Ken-neth Clarkes's increase in

base rates had been nuneces-sary, and further rises in sterling triggered by the higher rates would threaten exports

".Wori Visses

He accepted it was right for the Government to act early against inflation, but argued that the surge in sterling had compounded exporters' prob-

Europe. "We should not rush into interest rate rises without thinking of our exporters."

mr Buxton said the main problem facing the economy was not inflation but high public borrowing, and called for a "boring Budget", that would tighten fiscal policy.

However, the Bank of England governor, Eddie George, told the conference: "It may told the conference: "It may well be that some further rise will become necessary in due course — and that was the conclusion in our latest infla-

tion report."

He rejected the view that the rise in sterling meant higher base rates were not needed to cool down the economy. "The stronger exchange rate does nothing directly to restrain the domestically driven upswing in demand." Adair Turner, the CBI's di-

rector general, said the need for a tough Budget had in-creased since the CBI launched its Budget submis-sion two months ago.

Alastair Eperon, chairman of the CBI's distributive trades panel, said there was no overwhelming demand for tax cuts, saying the electorate was too cynical to see them as iems of weak demand in anything other than a bribe.

Allied Domecq finds breaking up is hard to do

OUTLOOK/ Dispirited drinks group finds demerger too costly, writes Roger Cowe

2000 million was one of were not fit to stand on their own as independent quoted Domeco rejected pleas from the City to split up its spirits

and retailing businesses. Chairman Sir Christopher Hogg said yesterday — as he announced disappointing results for the year to August that the board had decided — that the board had decided demerger was not the answer to improving shareholder value. It would concentrate on improving the existing businesses, although breaking up might return as an option in a few years' time. Investors' expectations of a demerger were heightened earlier this year when Sir Christopher took the chair, because of his record in split.

because of his record in split-ting up Courtaulds in 1990. He admitted yesterday that this had been "a seductive option" because of investor pressure. But, on top of the huge cost, the board had decided it could the board had decided it could not afford top management attention being distracted for up to a year from the key problem of turning around the operations.

He pointed out that there was more synergy between the two businesses than had generally been assumed, espe-

generally been assumed, espe-cially the financial benefits of marrying the overseas earn-ings and the cash flow of the spirits business with the cash-hungry UK pub

Sir Christopher made it

Stock market value 124.7hm

Eminings Ishare . 4.19



POTENTIAL bill of | clear that Allied's businesses companies. He said it had taken five years to get Cour-taulds Textiles into a fit state to be spun off,

Gale

chas

oron

It has already taken longer than that to sort out the accident-prone Allied, which has had a miserable 1990s after a disappointing and confused 1970s and 1980s. Sir Christopher remarked that the group had been in a state of flux since the 1960 merger that created the group. Since then Lyons has come and gone, as has Carlsberg, and the com-pany -- which was one of the big four brewers - now makes beer only in the cellars

makes beer only in the cellars of its Firkin pub chain.

The exit from brewing explains the depth of the plunge in profits, which exaggerates the poor operating performance. Allied sold its interest in the Carlsberg-Tetley joint venture for £205 million. but venture for £205 million, but incurred a total loss on the deal of £309 million. The monopolies authorities are still debating the implications of the deal for Bass, which is

buying the stake. Whatever happens, Allied is shot of the brewing millstone and it knows its pube will not have to pay excessive beer prices once the existing supply agreement runs out at the end of next year.

Even allowing for these exceptional costs, however, Alceptional coets, however, Allied's results are pretty poor, as Sir Christopher and his chief executive Tony Hales readily admitted. On a comparable basis, pre-tax profits were down by II per cent, with a small-increase in retailing offset by a plungs in retailing offset by a plunge in spirits profits from £488 mil-lion to £419 million.

That is mainly the conse-quence of massive destocking. Allied decided last year, in common with its competitors. that it had been shoving out cases of Ballantines, Rablus and the like that were just sitting in distributors' ware-houses. The answer was to ahip less booze, which there-fore hit sales and profits.

So the business is now leaner — 1,500 people have been made redundant — but it remains to be seen just how much fitter. The spirits busi-ness has lost the glitter it had keep pushing up profit mar-gins to compensate for low sales growth — although Mr Hales insisted that spirits remain attractive as a highmargin, brand-led, cash-generative business. Perbaps one day it will be attractive enough to stand on its own. but not for a year or two.

Rate of the more and and the great form of the g

£5bn insurance merger Jobs go in Norweb deal

ONSOLIDATION in the life insurance industry intensified yesterday when France's largest insurers. Axa and Union des Assurances de Paris, revealed merger plans in a £5,6bn share swop. The combined group, whose

name has yet to be decided, will have \$445 billion (£280 billion) under management, and will rank second in the world behind Japan's Nippon Life Insurance. The deal will drive together two British life insurers, Sun

Life. 60 per cent owned by UAP, and Axa Equity & Law. The two companies will form the third biggest life insurer to British

The unnouncement took the subsidiaries, but executives industry by surprise. The from both sides are meeting The announcement took the

companies said in a statement | in London today to set out a that the merger would enable | a strategy for closer co-opera-1994, to build a group with an unparalleled strategic position "in the face of increasingly stiff global competition".

Axa's chairman, Claude Be-bear, who will head the management board of the group, said the partnership would create significant economies of scale and make possible the streamlining of a number of operations, including asset management. But he insisted there would be no job losses at either company. UAP em-ploys 18,000, while Axa has a workforce of 10,000 worldwide.

The two companies said it was too soon to say how the merger would affect the UK

Axa Equity & Law, ac-quired by the French insurer in 1987, has £11 billion of assets under management and employs 1,800. Sun Life's holding company floated 40 per cent of its shares this year. It has £19 billion under management and a staff of

One City analyst said it was likely that Sun Life and Axa Equity & Law would retain their separate identities for some time, though ultimately they would share resources and adminstrative processes. He said: "On insurance premiums, this deal will put Sun Life and Axa Equity & Law behind Standard Life and Prudential as the biggest life insurer in the UK."

Industrial Correc

NIONS fear up to 1,000 jobs will be lost following yesterday's announcement that United Retail to rival high-street electrical chain Comet. United announced earlier this year it wanted to sell

the loss-making operation. The move is the latest in a series of closures and merg-ers in electrical retailing, caused by poor demand, cut-throat competition and, mergers and acquisitions ecross the utilities sector. Under the terms of the proposed sale, Comet, which is owned by Kingfisher, will pay £51 million in cash, less a deduction of restructuring costs.
Norweb Retail, which operates mainly in the north-

est of England, has 81 outof-town stores, 57 high street sites and annual sales of £240 million. Comet said Norweb's outof-town stores would be integrated into the Comet chain early next year. Nor-web's withdrawal from high-street operations would continue. Comet said

it would decide in February which stores to close. which stores to close.

The trade union Unison said that this could mean 1,000 job losses among the 2,800 staff employed in the stores, at Norweb Retail's Bolton head office, and a distribution centre in Manchester both of which chester, both of which would be closed. The job

£22 million to reflect | cuts would be in addition to the 2,500 announced by United Utilities in March. Eddie Styring, Comet's chief executive, said: "While there will be some redundancies. Comet's acquisition means that many Norweb Retail jobs will be saved." The company had promised redundancy

terms similar to those of-fered under Norweb Briail's severance scheme.
Briail's severance scheme.
Briain Staples, chief executive of United Utilities, said the company's disposal programme had now raised £267 million towards its target of £350 million. target of £350 million.

United Utilities is the holding company for Norweh, the regional electric ity company, and North West Water, which merged

News in brief

Water cut-offs continue to dry up

THE number of households being disconnected for non-payment of water bills is continuing to fall, according to new figures from industry watchdog Ofwat. Disconnections fell 21 per cent to 1,974 in the six months to September, the lowest first half figure since Ofwat started keeping records in 1990.

Ofwat said its guidelines on debt and disconnection had now here adotted by the whole in the six months. been adopted by the whole industry, but it pointed out that two water supply companies, Mid Kent and Portsmouth, still had relatively high disconnection rates. Mike Clark, the managing director of Mid Kent, said 80 per cent of those disconnected were reconnected within 24 hours. — Nicholas Bannister

Clubhaus tees up Gold Fund

CLUBHAUS, the European golf club operator, yesterday unveiled £12.7 million deal to acquire Golf Fund, owner of two Midlands The all-shares offer, which carries a cash-and-shares alterna-

tive valuing Golf Fund at £12 million, caps a period of rapid expansion for Clubhaus since it was demerged from Ex-Lands Group in February and floated on the stock market. The shares closed unchanged at 82%p. — Dominic Walsh

Construction booster

CONSTRUCTION firms received a sharp boost to orders as manufacturers increased expansion plans and the housing mar-ket recovery fed through the system, latest official figures showed yesterday. Orders were especially high in the infrastructure sector, while private sector housing increased for the third quarter in a row and helped boost the overall value of new work to nore than £1.8 billion in September.

New construction work in the three months to September was worth \$5.4 billion, the Department of the Environment said, 2 per cent higher than at the same time last year. House building in the private sector was 7 per cent higher in the third quarter than it was a year ago. — Sarah Ryle

Colonial bonanza

SOME 270,000 British investors with Colonial, the Australian mutual financial services group, are to receive shares worth at least £285, after its members voted yesterday to support its least 2200, and its members voted yesterday to support its conversion plans. Colonial won 97 per cent approval from voting members in four countries, including New Zealand and Fiji, clearing the way for a stock market flotation in Australia next Summer with a capitalisation of A\$1.85 billion (£790 million). But despite holding 55 per cent of its A\$ 36 billion assets in the UK, Colonial said yesterday it remained undecided about seeking a second listing on the London Stock Exchange. — Richard Miles

Good causes lift profits

SUPPORTING good causes is good for profits, according to research for Business in the Community (BITC), published yesterday to support a new initiative on cause-related marketing led by day to support a new inflative on tausor elated marketing sed by Cadbury Schweppes chairman Dominic Cadbury.

More than four out of five consumers said that if the price and quality of products was the same, they prefer a product associated with a good cause. — Roger Come



Cafédirect is a brand of high quality coffee that guarantees a fairer share of the profits goes to growers.

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THE SELECTION

Gale to repeat chasing promise

Ken Oliver

*OLLOWERS of trainers and lockeys statistics will be interested in the proceedings at this afternoon's meeting at Worcester where David Gandolfo, the Wantage trainer, has booked Richard Dunwoody for three

races.
The combination has clicked six times this season for a 32 per cent strike rate and that impressive tally can be increased with the aid of Bietschhorn Bard, Mouse Bird and Around The Columbia

Bietschhorn Bard, Mouse Bird and Around The Gale, Around The Gale, a full brother to the stable's star chaser. Gales Cavalier, looks an exciting addition to the novice chasing ranks.

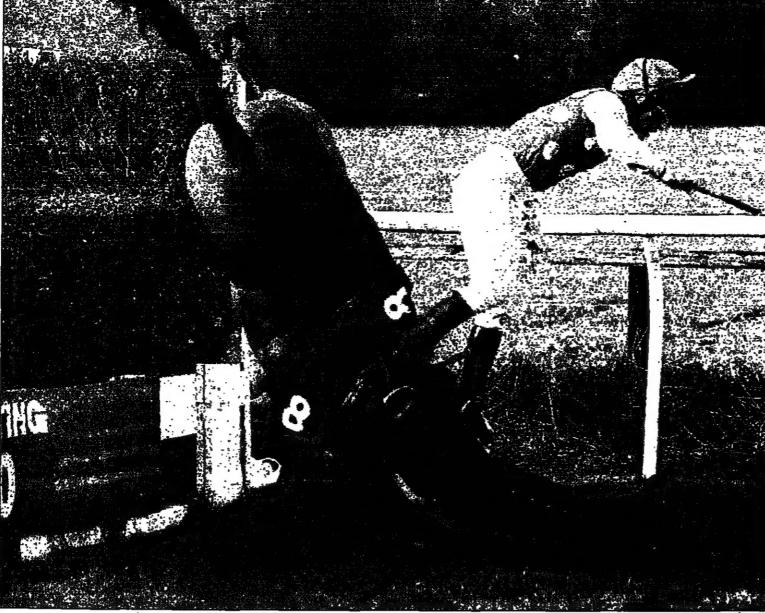
A promising performer over hurdles, he made a successful transition to the bigger obstacles at Bangor on the first day of this month when, jumping fluently, he won by jumping fluently, he won by
12 lengths from Rafters.
Dunwoody, who was in the
saddle then, was most impressed with the five-year-old

and he will certainly take some beating in the valuable Worcester Novice Chase. Wisley Wonder, from Nigel

Twiston-Davies's in-form stable, could prove the biggest threat. He made his chasing debut at Haydock a week ago and looked the likely winner until blundering and unshipping his rider at the 13th, with the race going to Impe-

rial Vintage.
Castlekellyleader is another interesting rival. He won his final four hurdle races when trained in Ireland by Paddy Mullins last season. Now with Paul Nicholls, he should soon be making his mark over here, but Around The Gale (2.30) is expected to follow up his impressive Ban-

Bietschhorn Bard (1.00),



Over and out . . . David Walsh parts company from his mount Circulation at Sedgefield yesterday

improvement.

Mouse Bird (2.00)
returned in great heart at Newton Abbot when beating Morstock seven lengths. That distance could have been doubled had Dunwoody wished and he can defy a 5lb penalty in the Plumb Center Handicap Hurdle. Jonjo O'Neill, the Penrith

trainer, landed an across-thewho has been Hobdayed, card double yesterday with showed much improved form lvy House at Sedgefield and on his reappearance over Lord Of The West at Ludlow.

when he beat Mythical Approach by two lengths and long overdue first victory looks open for further

over fences in the Dick Brewitt Memorial Handicap Chase at Sedgefield.
"I'm glad for the horse that he's won," said O'Neill. "He keeps making mistakes, but he's done the job nicely today. "The win will have done the horse's confidence a lot of good although I wouldn't say good, although I wouldn't say he's got it back completely yet. He needs a couple more easy wins first." Mary Reveley, the Saltburn trainer, and her stable jockey Peter Niven command a huge

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400 - FELLOO (238) T George 7-11-8 ...
412-21- MACCESTORIC (2017) R Lee 6-11-3 ...
412-21- MACCESTORIC (2017) R Lee 6-11-3 ...
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1990: Blester Ryon 7 11 3 D Bridgester 1-3 (R Alams) 2 per Betfleys 6-4 Redocrayourself, 5-2 Newton County. 5-1 Newgeorge, 7-1 Count Master, 14-1 So 16-1 Fallon, 46-1 Scorpion Bay.

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TOP PORM TIPE Super Taction 10, Marry Pasts &

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following at Sedgefield, where they have been the top combi-nation for almost a decade. It was business as usual as they completed a 62-1 double with Brambles Way and

Cader Idris.
Brambles Way ended the unbeaten jumping record of Contrafire as he dismissed Ann Swinbank's odds-on chance in emphatic style to take the Hennessy Cognac Hurdle by four lengths. Cader Idris, sent to Mrs Re-

veley by former permit holder Derek Wellicome three months ago, had luck on his side in capturing the John

Hellens Novice Chase. High Handed was three lengths clear when unseating his rider three from home, leav-ing Cader Idris to come home

unchallenged.

Mr Mulligan will bypass
the Hennessy in favour of
Chepstow's Rehearsal Chase
on December 7, where he will be ridden by leading condi-tional Richard Johnson. Johnson was replaced aboard Marching Marquis, owned like Mr Mulligan by

Cheltenham on October 29.

Michael Worcester, at Exeter last week, having been un-seated from the same horse at

But Worcester denied that the move constituted sacking Johnson, and yesterday Noel Chance, Mr Mulligan's trainer, confirmed: "It was a storm in a tea cup and it has

PHOTOGRAPH: MICHAEL STEEL

all been sorted out now."

One of racing's most successful partnerships is set to resume after confirmation that Michael Stoute, the Newmarket trainer, will receive five yearlings from the Aga Khan later this year. Stoute and the Aga enjoyed a fruitful association before

the owner withdrew his horses from Britain over the "Aliysa" affair of 1989.

Sport in brief

Ferrari break off talks with Sauber

FERRARI have withdrawn from talks with Sauber about supplying engine technology to the Swiss-based Formula One team because details were leaked to the press. "It is impossible to continue talks following the transported disclosures by Sauber of

because details were leaked to the press. "It is impossible to continue talks following the unexpected disclosure by Sauber of negotiations while details were still being discussed," said Giancarlo Baccini, a Ferrari spokesman.

Baccini confirmed in Maraello that the teams had indeed been discussing the possibility of Sauber manufacturing F1 engines using Ferrari technology but he said Sauber, who have lost their Ford engines, should not have announced the deal on Monday.

Braḍbury takes a break

JULIE BRADBURY, England's outstanding woman badminton player for three seasons, seems unlikely to play at the highest level again, urius Richard Jago. Bradbury, who reached the top three in the world at both women's and mixed doubles, is pregnant and has withdrawn from England's six-match series against China starting in Exeter today and will not play again until next summer. By then she will be 30 and, after a season away from competition, may not be able to match the standards of players from the leading nations. But Steve Baddeley, England's director of elite play, hopes she will return to his squad.

McRae receives his MBE

COLIN McRAE, the former world rally champion, yesterday received his MBE from the Queen. It was awarded to him in June in recognition of his services to motor sport and the '25-year-old Scot said yesterday: "It is such an honour to receive this award and a great way to end the year. It is very encouraging to know that rellwing has been recognized in this way."

that rallying has been recognised in this way."

After a poor start to the year McRae lost his individual world title to the Finn Tommi Makinen, but he won the final two rallies at San Remo and Catalunya to clinch the manufacturers' championship for Subaru.

Man killed in big-fight row

HOWARD GOMES, aged 42, died in hospital from a gunshot wound to the chest received when he tried to calm his son, Keith Lewis, after Mike Tyson lost his world heavyweight boxing title to Evander Holyfield. Police in Colorado Springs said they arrested Lewis, age 21, in a molel.

Bath to tour South Africa

BATH are planning a two-match tour of South Africa next summer. They hope to play Natal in Durban and Western Prov-ince in Cape Town, the scene of England's World Cup semi-final

defeat by New Zealand last year.
The South West have named six players from Exeter, of Courage League Three, for the match against South Africa A at Exeter next Wednesday. The selectors were unable to call on Bath or Bristol players because the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs have not yet agreed to release players from the top two divisions, but despite this there are three Gloucester men in the side.

Humphries on the charge

STAN HUMPHRIES threw three touchdown passes, including one of 46 yards to Andre Coleman in the first half, as the San Diego Chargers beat the Detroit Lions 27–21 on Monday right. Humphries, who did not play in last week's victory over Indianapolis because of a dialocated shoulder, completed 24 of 32 passes for 311 yards and three touchdowns.

Newbury with guide to recent form

1,20 mg HOVICE HURBLE 2m 110yds C2,126 17) 16-16-10 _____ Mir & Thornion (7) THE CAPTAINS WIGH (179) D Nichol - Tank Carriants and 17 27 regional of -1-0
- ARROOM (237) O Sharwood 6-1-0
- CHANA REM (200) C Brooks 6-1-0
- CHANGACTON Man. C Johnney 6-1-0
- BRINTING PET (23) G L Moore 5-1-0
- ENTER BLESSED (214) May J Phrass 6-1-0
- BRILLED PROMATER Alors 6-1-0
- BRI GOOMBELLY (1971) R Alors 6-1-0
- BRI GOOMBELLY (1971) R Alors 6-1-0
- CHIN BOOTH CHAYL | Development 1 G- CURP PRINE (217) J Borley 5-11-0 ...

6- CURP PRINE (217) J Borley 5-11-6 ...

6- RATISICIAL (225) M Hoston-Elfs 5-11-0 ...

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6TRATIGENSTER K Bulley 5-11-0 ...

TOWER STREET J Gillord 5-11-0 ... 1430 - KENTFORD THIA (217) J Maline 5-10-8 ... 4- MAED FOR ADVENTURE (220) Miss H Knigi

1980: La Klement 4 11 5 J Cubarno 9-4 (Mrs L Marphy) 3 res Bettings S-4 Aerion, 4-1 Tomperon, 9-2 The Captain's Wish, 5-1 Ever Binssed, 6-1 Yover Street, 10-Sonstrainsier.

om territor, 349. TOBUPETOG: Prominent, every chance 2 bus, mistake test, one pace, 3rd of 11, bin 40, to (Cheption 2n 170yds nov bal, 50). 1.50 LOUIS VICK WA

way Lad & 12 5 G Researt 9-2 (P Webber) 5 rm letting: 3-1 Express Travel, 4-1 Lucity Dollar, 5-2 Goldenswife, 5-1 Sugar Hill. W ones Cultur - Express That like held up, headway hith, led 4 cel, ran on, best by NEAD pulled up (Norcester 2m 71 ann hap ch, lad). DCKY BOLLAID Led to fith, led 2 out until run-in when ten 20 by Sprowston Boy (Fake

id). PRESTERALT CANUS. Led 4 cut, bhodoned and unseeted rider next in race won by Mid O'The Regs Huntingdon 2m 4 10 year now hop ch, Gd). TURE MARKETYS MANTEND (21 4) J GRIDNE 5-11-6
1014-F3 DJARS (11) J Jenkins 7-11-4
00142- LITTUE SUCK (170) L Wells 3-11-4
22303- BARRING (200) M Pipe 4-10-8
1512- KARSHI (200) Mise H Knight 8-10-9

Results

SEDGEFIELD

12.50 (3cm 34 110yds Hdfelt 1, TOP SKIPPER, A S Smith (10-1): 2, Snowy Lane (7-1); 3, Minne Saine (9-1), 11-8 tav D'Arbiay Sirest 10 ran. X, 5, Martyn Wane) Tole: F13.40; C2.20, C1.70, C1.50, Dust F: E15.90, CSF, E77.56, Tricast 6518.01

1.20 (2m 19 hills) 1, SEAMBLES WAY, 1.20 (2m 19 hills) 1, SEAMBLES WAY, P. Nivon 6-112, 2, Constanting (4-51; 3, Sums Lent (8-2), 8 non. 4, 10, (hirs: M Reveley) Tota: 28.00; 24.50, 51.10, 51.70 DF: 27.90. CSF: C16, 11, MR: Nixon

CSF: C16.11.NR: Nkrasi 1.50 (2m 110yds Ch)r 1, Füll 0*PRASSE, L Wyor (11-2): 2, Yai de Russe (5-1). 3, Thanderskruck (5-2f) 9 ran. 15.

RACELINE

1986: Hops And Pops S 10 13 Th P Honley 4-5 (R Alser) 3 ran Beethage 15-8 Mandys Mandon 9-4 Danking, 5-1 Karebt, 5-1 Little Buck, 10-1 Djeks. NOS - MANOYS MANTING: Led three out, ridden out, best Spanking Yassain 60 (Ascot 2n 4 no

hep hall, Gd-Fm).

PORTOR STREET - STATES TACTICS: Chand harder 7th, led 2 and, conformitly, best Clay County VII (Million PANYC). Held up, beaching lifth, led land, beat Standa Library PANYC). Held up, beaching lifth, led land, beat Standa -D-VERTHERDE SADDILIER Chaned Hading pair to lith, washinged shree out, tailed eff, 4th of 6, bin 54, bahini niperan Lurestow (Populary 2n 179) by to be ob, 6458, 1918 ALASTISOBE Prominger 1918 Walenam 4 out, 3rd of 8, bio 281, to MONTHERN SADDLER (Navion 3.50 COLD ASH MOYICE HANDICAP HURDLE De 110ges CO.765

TOP FORE TIPS: Parcy Throats S. River Roses 7, Contra Ve

1966: Tao Ham & 10 13 J F Tithey 4-1 (Mine H Kaleis) 4 mm Betting: 3-1 Percy Thrower, 7-2 River Room, 4-1 Spaceage Gold, 5-1 Canton Vecto Cucent's Avents, 16-1 Ching Nati.

PORUM GUILDG - PERSON THEOGRAPHIC Made most to 5th, ratified to lead last, driven oid, best Ji. Herstord 3m 27 days bdl, Gdl, REVER ROCKE Promisent, classed leaster, rickler last, led near fisials, begt Hyllers Checon a new 2m of now loop hdl, Gdl. mer bey hol, Colj. Cassals Malika Aspenindary Bia, gulot hasten, 4th of 9, bin a distance bahinti Scannifach (Formvell 2m S 19fyds nov dearing hol, Goffas).

 Blinkered today for the first time: KELSO: 3.40 Whirlwind Romance, WORCESTER: 2.00 Mouse Bird.

16. IP Celver) Tote, CB 20. Et 20. C1.30, E1.40.
DF: C1.50. CSF: E32.03. Tricast 179.39.
2. 05 (Sm 3f Chip 1, NY MOUSS, M Deyer (2-1) are 2. Ally Basing (4-1); 3, G10 Chie (13-2), 6 of chin 3f Chip 1, INV MOUSS, M Deyer (2-1) are 2. Ally Basing (4-1); 3, G10 Chie (13-2), 6 of chin 3f Chip 1, INV MOUSS, M Deyer (2-1) are 2. Ally Basing (4-1); 3, G10 Chin (13-2), 6 of chin 3f Chip 1, INV MOUSS, M Deyer (2-1) are 2. Ally Basing (4-1); 3, G10 Chin (13-2), 6 of c

Worcester Jackpot card

1.00 ASTLEY HOVICE HURBLE 2m 4f \$2.700 P4449-1 BRETSCHRÖGER BARD (18) (C) D Gunden 6703-F CREDO BOY (S) X Belingo 7-10-12 395- DEBARDAR BILL (283) C Mem 6-10-12 0-DEXTRA (271) S Earle 6-10-12 0-DEXTRA (271) S Earle 6-10-12 0-S JAYELIN COOL (173) G Hebbert 5-10-12 3220-KALAUSDOS (125) W Jerks 5-10-12 1723- BURLY ROSE (263) D Merks 5-10-12 D-5 JAPELIN CODE, (13) 8 Hybbert 5-10-12

1220- KALADROSS (228) W Jenst 5-10-12

11230- ROBRITY MOSE (226) D (Retoken 5-10-12

D- RE NOTIFICATION (254) T (Keddy 5-10-12

5- SAMERIONEL D (175) N TWINDO-Drives 5-11

31- WARNER FOR FLAYERS (227) P Hybrid 6-40-40

WYDERIELA (12) Mrs T Pillington 6-10-7

SULA*S DREAMS (3) N Lempard 5-10-7

W WYDE 'N STREEK (3) N Lempard 5-10-7

TOP FORM TIPE: Sicischhorn Berli 8, Wise W Silme 7, Hydenilla 6 1983: Sterm North S 11 0 C Allier 19-2 (Mins V Whitma) 3 res Buildings 11-4 Blatechinorn Berd, 7-2 Mighey Moss, 7-1 Sa Drakoelone, 12-1 Wass 'W Shire, Keladraen.

1.30 DURILEY HANDICAP CHASE 2m 77 110yds CS,025 201 3211F1- BRLYGOAT GROPF (208) D Hicholson F-11-7 202 2213F- KING LECKFER (248) D Nicholson F-11-4 202 2713C- KING LECKFER (248) D Nicholson F-11-4 203 27122- CHISTRYPHIT (361) (C) P Nicholso F-10-18 8 runners TOP FORM TIPS: Hillygant Greft 8, King Landler 7 1900: Act Of Parliament 7 10 7 A Danwaydy 15-8 (K Balley) 4 ran Battlings 4-5 Bullygout Graff, 2-1 King Lucillar, 2-1 Cherrymit.

2.00 HILLIA CHITTO HANDICAD BYDOLES - CO. CO.

S-remotes TOP-POTES TIPE: Chicodist 6, Tultuda 7, Monae Med 6 1986: Southemplan 5 15 5 A P McCuy 5-4 (O Building) 5 rms Sudgel 7-1 Tehnato, 5-2 Chicodist, 9-2 Monae Bird, 5-1 Knellél, 7-1 Society Quest, 12-1 inculcate, 16-1 Noting Frost, 3-3- Princenco Piche. 2.30 WORDESTER HOVICE CREASE 2m 71 110/sh \$12,300

2-31.9 MONICESTER HOVICE CREASE 2m 7f 110-jule 212,31
401 21375 BARNESEAD (641) J Spening 7-11-1
402 21375 BARNESEAD (641) J Spening 7-11-1
403 42111- CASTLEMENT (120) D Rectation 6-11-1
404 605 COLOR REMINERS (220) Nes 6 acts 6-11-1
405 43 HIGH BERMENE (220) Nes 6 acts 6-11-1
406 U27-11 BOON -4CED (14) Nes 6 Smith 7-11-1
407 10101- PLEAKING SHARMS (224) P HOODS 6-11-1
408 R2VPA- BEACHAMOSE (244) N WINGTON 7-11-1
409 SICYA- TERMEZORES TWIST (272) Nes J Phono 6-11-1
400 102-14-1 TERMEZORES TWIST (272) Nes J Phono 6-11-1
410 1030-5 WISLAY WONDERS (7) (307) N TWISTON-Davice 6-11-1
411 62151-1 AROUND THE GALE (12) D Cardollo 5-10-13

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TOP FORM TIPIS Around Tim Galo 9, Setulumps 7, Waley
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Reterrato Joe, Terropasse Twist,

3.30 High Low

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TOP FORM TIPS: Lets Be Frank 8, Indrapora 7, Coloral 6 1986: Prestier Plats & 11 S E Hestond 7-2 (Mos L Siddal) Y ros Beldings 7-4 Indragurs, 4-1 Leis Bo Frank, Seres Trendino, 8-1 Colerat. 10-1 Count Of Flanders, Fairles. Perspendi, 12-1 Young Tyccon.

3.30 TALFAE TROPHY HANDICAP CHASE 2= 53,752 C Liewelljen Mr G Shoukin (7) D Bridgemier

C Ree (7) +

Suphio Mini

A P McCoy

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I Jaimson

1996: Residual Prison 7 10 13 T Glay 3-1 (A Streeter) 6 van Bettings 5-2 righ Low, 5-1 The Minuter, 6-1 Ambanador Royale, 7-1 Porphyrios, 8-1 Good For A Laugh.

4.00 WYCHOOLD STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLÂT 🖦 C1,427 I BOOTS RADDEW (18) Miss Y Williams 6-11-11
BOOTS RADDEW (18) Miss Y Williams 6-11-11
BOOTS ROSSPICTOR (18) P Hotor 4-11-4
BOOTS ROSSPICTOR (18) P Hotor 4-11-4
BOOTS ROSSPICTOR (18) Miss H Rospil 5-11-4 Cit-AMCTOS FURSILISM (1855) MINS H RANGIN 7-11-4

AMELOW KING P Regimum 4-11-4

B-BEICKY'S LAD (11) Mrs D Thomas 6-11-4

DOMINOROSS P Nichols 4-11-4

EMBOCAST PET S Rockship 6-11-4

FINECHOWN Mrs P Richeson 6-11-4 GOWER-SLAVE P Revent 4-1-4
HENN STATESMAN TO BIG-11-4
S20-NLLS GAMBLE C177 P Bevan 6-11-4
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TOP FORM TIPS: Buggs Maddon B, Lady Pulsy 7, Lock He Keel S

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Soccer

Coca-Cola Cup, third-round replay Lincoln City 1, Southampton 3

Saints hit back late and hard

INCOLN produced a night of derring do, as their manager John Beck had promised, but the Third Division side

Many Premiership sides might have foundered last night against Lincoln's direct night against Lincoin's direct style but Southampton, after equalising only 15 minutes from time through Jin Magil-ton's penalty, then confirmed their superiority with two further goals. They took the lead five minutes from time when Gordon Watson, a sub-stitute for Matthew Le Tis-sier, scored from Eyal Berko-vic's right-wing cross, before the Israeli added a third in

Beck; wherever his manage-rial career takes him in the lower divisions, he and his sides cause a stir. Lincoln had done precisely that in a 4-1 win against Manchester City in the previous round at Sincil Bank, and they began as if convinced of a repeat.

For 20 minutes Southamp-ton barely grabbed a breath as Lincoln careered forward on a cold, blustery night. The Third Division side went shead after nine minutes from a familiar ploy. Flem-ing's long throw was aimed, as always, towards Bos at the near post and although Woods paimed away the flick, Ainsworth prodded the ball in

at the far post. Woods, back in his native Lincolnshire, then tipped over Bos's header from Whitney's deep left-wing cross, took a buffeting from Ains-

Coca-Cola Cup: Arsenal v Stoke City

Wright enters

French spirit

N WRIGHT is learning

French to help him stay on

the same wavelength as

Arsenal's inspirational mid-fielder Patrick Vieira.

Wright, back in the Eng-land fold at 33 and with 13

enals already this season.

aid: "Patrick has been a brilliant addition to the team for me. He has set up some great

chances with his passing, es-

pecially the goals I got against Middlesbrough and Black-

burn recently."

Vielra, who was actually

born in Senegal, has been given the nickname "What"

by the Arsenal players. It is his usual reply to their ques-

tions as he struggles to learn

the English language.
Wright said: "He's trying,
but I thought I would have a

go at picking up a few French phrases from him at the same

time. It can only help our

The £3.5 million French

Under 21 international will be

hoping to supply more ammu-nition for Wright in the third-

round Coca-Cola Cup replay at home to Stoke tonight. Wright has no language barrier with Arsenal's manworth as Fleming launched another bomb, and added to his bruises by saving coura-geously at Bos's feet.

came more evident as the half progressed. Ostenstad and Berkovic drawing saves from Richardson and Dodd shooting high from 20 yards. But the most galling miss came from Le Tissier, who wasted an indirect free-kick from nine yards after Richardson had been penalised for pick-

ing up a back-pass.

Le Tissier almost redressed matters just before the hour with a clinical, curling free kick from 30 yards which seemed to be squeezing into Richardson's top left-hand corner until the gozikeeper produced another outstand-

ing save.
But Lincoln had already underlined that, if composure had long since deserted them the freakish remained well within their capabilities. Fleming's punt forward fell fortuitously for Ainsworth but his snatched volley flew

Perhaps Southampton's manager Graeme Souness cal-Tissier's night. His decision minutes from time with the more direct style of Watson the home crowd, but after 75 minutes Southampton equalised when Ostenstad was tripped by Barnett and Magilton struck the penalty kick into the roof of the net.

match press confe

training ground.

His assistant manager Pat

Rice revealed that the Gun-

ners are almost certain to be

unchanged tonight. Holland's

hat-trick specialist Dennis Bergkamp, Wales's John Hartson and the England

players Tony Adams, David Seaman, David Platt and

Wright all returned un-

scathed from World Cup duty.

Paul Merson, who was a late withdrawal from Eng-land's trip to Georgia because

Addison a Martyr to the cause

FACUP PROFILE: David Foot on the Merthyr manager hoping to live up to his reputation as a creator of giantkilling surprises

who, when they have times by unfeeling di-rectors, become conthe game that has been their living, and are never heard of again. Not so Colin Addison:

In the past 10 years he has Spanish clubs, including Atletico Madrid. He has also been to League football. in charge at Hereford United Newport County, Derby Albion and has had coaching iobs in Kuwait and Qatar.

IERE are managers I eventful managerial career he has demonstrated a rare facility for adjustment, something he originally revealed when he went from playing in the First Division to being playermanager of the then non-League Hereford.

In no time Hereford were taking on and beating New-castle United in the third round of the Cup. They were also deservedly on their way Addison is a canny old

hand at cup fighting and shock-creating. Orient will do a one-time police officer who well not to take him and his recently retired from his own part-timers from Mid-Glamorgan lightly. Merthyr play in more modestly looks after the Dr Marten's League, Merthyr Tydfil, who travel to sheepish about slipping out of sheepish about slipping out of to cheer on the Martyrs. Leyton Orient on Saturday in the GM Conference two years In the years after the war him a trial but the family had the FA Cup. Throughout his ago, and are buzzing again.

"We really are more profe sional under Colin than we've ever been. He's involved in every facet of the club and his skills at motivation are quite a revelation." Experienced nembers of the side, such as the former Hereford defender Greg Downs and the Swansea

and Sunderland midfielder Colin Pascoe, confirm this. Merthyr, with their 16 part-time professionals and home transition, with Ken Gunter, recently retired from his own security firm, heading a takeover. Six hundred fans will be going to London on Saturday

competitive Southern League title. Now, they argue, renewed success is overdue. Already this season they have knocked those renowned giantkillers Yeovil out of the

Addison makes the hourlong journey from his Here-ford home at least twice a week to supervise training things are run at Penydarren ars to have enthusiasm and he works without a contract.

Addison, the son of bomber pilot, was born in Taunton and brought up just outside Bristol. Rovers gave him a trial but the family had

in non-League football. They were attractive enough to pull in a 21,000 predominantly Celtic gate for the Cup visit of Reading. Five times between 1948-54 they won the fiercely Sheffield United.

The went on to squad, including the longest-serving player, the goal-keeper and Ford-shift worker Gary Wager, for a rare overnight stay in London before 1948-54 they won the fiercely Sheffield United.

The went on to squad, including the longest-serving player, the goal-keeper and Ford-shift worker its Mee's first signings along the longest-serving player, the goal-keeper and Ford-shift worker in the first-round tie. "We shall be a same of the first-round tie." He started as an inside-for-ward with predatory instincts

> rate and gradually moved into midfield. But he was, in addition, quietly ambitious, eager to forge a new career for himself in the game once the legs had let him down. He savoured authority and res-ponsibility—and still does. His individualistic style and strong opinions did not ings please him. Yet he never sat around and sulked and he

and an impressive scoring

long. His knowledge of Span-ish football has led to recent employment as a Sky TV pundit. Addison is taking his

not feel in any way under pressure," he says. "There will be a nice hotel meal or two, a short team talk and we will enjoy ourselves. You could call me a disciplinarian

with a smile on my face.
"Remembering Hereford,
this is like being in a time warp. There will be the customary shocks on Saturday one of them.

Addisor mentalist, is belping to organise a reunion in Hereford early next year for the playtional win against Newcastle in 1972 and one of the team has promised to fly over from Atlanta. "I love nostalgia. says soccer's versatile nomed.

Emerson faces Boro grilling

of a groin injury, is back in training again. Hartson could be on the bench alongside the IDDLESBROUGH hope today to resolve their problems with the played a leading role in Northern Ireland's 1-1 draw in Germany on Saturday. Wright admitted that Brazilian midfielder Emer-Arsenal face a tough task if they are to knock out First son, who is expected back on reportedly threatening never to play for the club again.

Division Stoke, who were good value for the 1-1 draw at the Victoria Ground three weeks ago.
"They will be even more up for this one at Highbury, especially as it is live on televi-sion," said Wright, who

scored Arsenal's late equaliser to earn the replay.

Mike Sheron, whose goal
put Stoke ahead, is ready for
another solo mission as a lone ager Arsène Wenger who speaks perfect English, But the former Monaco and

Grampus Eight coach has im-posed a temporary gag on himself as far as the media Stoke's Northern Ireland stoke's Northern treiand full-back Nigel Worthington is doubtful with an injury col-lected on World Cup duty against Germany, so their on-loan Italian Mirko Taccola Wenger is still furning over hast week's rumour that he was about to quit Highbury charge. He believes that uncould make his debut.

John Wardle

Once back from a short break in Rio de Janeiro, he will immediately be asked by Middlesbrough's chairman Steve Gibson and manager Bryan Robson to explain his arks, and he will be told to fulfil his four-year contract

or face a worldwide ban. Emerson's outburst last striker in front of a five-man midfield. threatened not to return from Brazil, came after Barcelona's expression of interest in the player, who joined Middles-brough for \$4 million less than six months ago. A Middlesbrough insider said last night: "The club is ready to take any action which may be necessary. Emerson will be told that he has

founded speculation about his private life has damaged his reputation, and yesterday he refused to hold his usual pre-

The £16,000-a-week Emerson complained that he was unsettled because his girl-friend Andrea could not adapt to life on Teesside, But Mid-

dlesbrough have dismisse interest is behind his unrest. Emerson was originally ex-pected back yesterday. But Middlesbrough played down fears that he would not return. Emerson tomorrow after-noon." The player's inter-preter Gianni Paladini went even further. "He is coming back. Emerson is happy to stay at Middlesbrough."

But Gibson, who has backed Robson in building a squad, insisted: "I want a full gets back. "I am not interested in Bar-

celona or any other club, I am only interested in what we are doing here. When these players arrived we sat down with them and talked things contract will be suspended. If I then, and we expect them to

he doesn't play for Middles | fulfil the terms of their con-brough he will be left to rot." | tracts now." | Juniuho is reportedly critical of English football and seek Emerson, who loined two other Brazilians at Middles brough, is not alone in trou-



But Paladini, who also as sists Juninho, said: "It's just not true. I've spoken to Jun-inho and he does not know what it's all about. "Juninho is not the type of

ing a move to Italy

of English football and seek-

person to criticise Middles-brough or say he wants to leave. He has settled into life in Middlesbrough and has never complained. It has not been easy but he has adapted. "At the end of the day the player is under contract to Middlesbrough and that's it, and of story. It's all specula-

tion, I promise you."
Emerson is banned for the next three Premiership eames and Middlesbrough will be eager to bring him back for the Coca-Cola Cup derby with Newcastle on No-

Gibson denied that Middlesbrough had widespread prob-lems. "We are not a club in crisis," he said. "I can sympahise with the frustration of supporters at recent results around very soon."

beat Gunn with a thunderou

clear Sheridan's free kick.

volley after Norwich failed to

Norwich were in serious

trouble seven minutes later

when Wilkinson made

amends for that early miss

Hendrie found himself in the

clear only to see his shot was

range.
Then Hendrie, from the left-

Soccer COCA-COLA CUE Third-round replay

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE First Division

Second Division Stevens 29, Spink 75

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

Rugby Union

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Ireland 25, Western Samos 40, TOUR MATCH: Ireland A St. South Assess

A 25. CLUB MATCH: Oxford Univ 17, Northamp

TOTALES

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[168cm] The Heat resuch M Could

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6-8-6-4; T Heatmen (Unon) IN G Sedlery

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(Statis) In M Wyeth (Surrey) 7-6, 6-2; J

Belgande (Warvick) IN G Henderson

(Yorks) 6-3, 6-2; M Lee (Sussed) IN D

Ward (Keet) 6-4, 6-2; N Weet (Finns) &

(Yorks) 6-3, 6-2, 8-4 Relearations (Linca) In L

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100) IN 5 Pender (Comment) 2-8, 7-6, 8-6,

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1-4-6, 6-4, 6-0; J Ward (Durhen & Cleve
1-4-6, 6-4, 6-0; J Ward (Durhen & Cleve-A Tordoff (Keur) 2-6. 7-5. 6-5. L. Jestes (Doon) bt. J Desson (Sussex) 6-5. 6-2. L. Leites (Warnschie) bt V Davies (3 Webes) 4-5. 6-4. 6-0. a Ward (Durchath & Clarkschied to the Wenn-Holland (Chee) 6-4. 7-6. a Canavathery (Cambes) bt. M Waltershape (Desson) 6-6. 6-1. Refereb bt. C Doombs (Kern) 3-0. 6-3. 6-0. M Matter (Orom) bt. E Langley (Strengsher) 6-1. 7-6. E Blood (Glob) bt. S The (Isle of Main) 8-0 ret. L. Abil (Devon) of 1. Periods (Ourham & Clarkschied) 6-4. 7-6. L. Websterf (Orom) bt. Strengs 6-4. Websterf (Orom) bt. Viollet (Langles) 6-4. Feb. 1. Websterf (Orom) bt. Viollet (Langles) 6-4. Feb. 1. Websterf (Orom) bt. Viollet (Langles) 6-4.

Segni 9-07 For an advance of the Perform Oburham A Clewstand 6-4, T-6; I. Weg-drudfie (Surrey) fit R Viollet (Lancs) 6-4 6-4; C Wood (Susseed) 16-A Siddel (Dor-sen 6-7, 6-4, 6-2; I. Herbert (Herb) bit N Woodboubs (herrich) 6-2, 2-6, 6-2; 3 past-lin (Susseet) bit F Hezmi (Mad) 6-3, 6-2; N Marthhems (Berks) bit K Cross (Devon) 8-3, 7, 6-4, West (Mad) 6-7, 7, 6-1, 19

CHAMPONE TROPHY (Sharjah). Sri Lanka 189 (50 overs: M Attopstu 56; Wa-qar Younis 4-28, Sagtein Mushtag 2-28; Pakidaan 189-2 (46.4 overs, Sated Amear 112no. Aamir Schail 68). Pakintan won by ice Hockey

Fixtures

COCA-COLA CLIP: Third-ressand registry Arsenai v Stoke (7.45); Covenby v Gilling-ham (7.45); Liverpool v Carbon (7.45). NATFORWIDE LEACHE: First Obvisions Birninghum v Bohon (7.45); Man C v Cothod Und (7.45); Was v Sheft Und (7.45). SCOTTIGEN LEAGUES: First Divisions St Johnstone v East File (7.45). WORLD CUP QUALIFYENDE Exception Group Sig Societ v Storelate di 3.07 Lew In; Whichem v Guisborough Th.
NORTHERM COUNTIES RAST LEAGUE
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Us v Ginpwell; Secientili Uni v Selby Th.
SCREWFRY DERBET LEAGUE: Presider
Divisions Tverton To v Brisington.
POWTENS LEER Preside Stackpoor v Port
Vale (7.0); Hudderstied v Preside (7.0);
Seconds Barneley v Grinsby (7.0); Burneley (7.0

Rugby Union

STATIVE MATCH Connecht

Basketball

Hockey REPRESENTATIVE: London Univ v Cambs Univ (1.0, Moteput Pk)

Camps Univ (1.0. Motspur Pk)

Disgo Maradona has claimed that he is being pushed to the wink of suicide. The former captain of Argandina said: "Maradone the bootesier is cean I can't go any furbar. I have no strength." Depressed at the arrest of his manager on drug charges and tecing a peternity suit, a tearted Maradona rold a television talk show: "They're hying to push me bowards killing nyself, but I wan't do it for my daughtera" sake." His manager Guillerma Coppole was arrested in October on consine dealing charges. If convicted, he could face up to 20 years in just (in Monday an unidentified women filed a potentity suit equinst Maradona, 36, claiming he was the lather of her sever-month-old bety.

Evans decides to take no action over Collymore's 'petulance'

ian Ross

CTAN COLLYMORE WILL Onot be disciplined by Liverpool for an alleged display of petulance during a reserves game last

Collymore appeared to shout obscenities at journalists during the Pontins League fixture against Sheffield Wednesday at Anfield after scoring the first of two goals in his club's

4-0 victory.
"I have spoken to several people, including supporters who were at the match. and in view of what I have taken," said Liverpool's

Last week Collymore was fined £20,000 by Liverpool after he refused to play in a reserves game at Tranmere.
Bolton have confirmed nister as No. 2

that they remain keen to sign Chelsea's forward Mark Hughes. The Burnden Park manager Colin Todd said: "We inquired about him in the summer only to be told he wasn't available. If and when that changes we would be interested." Mick McCarthy, the Republic of Ireland manager, has confirmed that John Aldridge has retired from international football

after winning 69 caps and scoring 19 goals.
The 38-year-old striker. Tranmere's player-man-ager, decided to end his Republic career after spending all Ireland's goal-less World Cup draw with Iceland on Sunday on the substitutes' bench. Darlington have offered

the vacant manager's post to Dave Hodgson, with the

Paul Fitzpatrick

BARNSLEY, one of the most wholehearted sides in the division, made an im-Oakwell last night. They moved a point behind third-placed Norwich after a powerful second-half performance which brought them three goals in a 16-minute spell. proach work came from Nor-wich but, until Newman's late

to play for this club or his

First Division: Barnsley 3, Norwich City 1

finish to go with it and these are slightly worrying times for the Canaries after recent reversals against Manchester In spite of their exalted po-sition. Barnsley had not won at home since they beat Stoke in early September. A glaring miss by Paul Wilkinson after

tap-in, they could not find the

He was picked perfectly by Hendrie, far out on the right. But he placed his header wide of the far post when it was much easier to score. Wilkin-

Moses strikes to start the parting of Norwich's defence

This bungled opportunity was possibly still playing on Wilkinson's mind when he optimistically attempted to beat Gunn from a ridiculous distance 10 minutes later, Goalkeepers with Gunn's experience do not fall for those. Much of Norwich's possession football was a delight; their build-up from the back, with Crook skilled and calm,

was precise to the nth degree. But by half-time it was Barnsley, with their less subtle approach. Who should have Wilkinson's miss must

side of the penalty area. He blazed wide of the far post. Norwich threatened to make Barnsley regret these misses and Adams twice went close, just falling to get full power as he moved on to a cross from the left and then bringing Watson to his first

given the chance to beat Gunn from the right-hand

serious save of the half. Barnsley have the ability to raise the pace of a game. They did it to advantage against Bolton in their last home match when they came back from two goels down to draw; and they now took Norwich's breath away with three goals The first came from an un-

blocked, but the ball rebounded kindly for Wilkin-son to all phome from close hand side of the penalty area, beat Sutch effortlessly on the shot well out of Gunn's reach. It was not all over, though, Norwich hitting back almost immediately with Newman tapping in from six yards

making only his second start of the season, but the central have nagged at his side of the season, but the central throughout the half, but Hendrie should also have done phatic of finishes when he

Wigan chief

denies selling

Central Park

Rugby League

Paul Fitzpatrick

all other options had been investigated.

first to know of any develop-ments," said Robinson, "We intend to keep that promise.

There are several options

open to us and they will be presented to shareholders

next month. These include Mr Whelan's offer for Central Park. The directors are not

due to meet him until early

Meanwhile, two of Wigan's

international forwards, Terry

Samoans dash Irish boot

Robert Armstrong at Lansdowne Road

RELAND succumbed reluctantly to a humiliat-ing five try defeat by an under-strength Western Samoa side that invariably called the shots that mattered in the first floodlit rugby international here last night. Brilliantly executed scores

by So'oalo, Leaupepe and Vaega, who crossed twice. together with an exciting solo try by Patu left the Irish bartered and beaten in mind as well as body.
The Irish full-back Simon

Mason finished with a per-sonal tally of 20 points with the boot but even a late storming iry by the Irish prop Paul allace failed to blunt the Sa- array, with a number of play-

Maria Pedro is one

names of sportsmen

like Jeremy Guscott. **Jill Turner** reports

going. In the yuppie-driven Eighties she made her money in the City but by the end of

the decade she had trans-

ferred her attention to the Next Big Thing, setting up a multi-media company with

ing, she is now tightening her hold on the still bewildered

"There is so much opportunity," she says hungrily.
"One of the hugest sports in the country and growing. I

definitely want a part of it.

Rugby union first caught

her eye in 1991 when the RFU

was beginning to relax its han

mad then husband to sit

through an afternoon of the

Five Nations on television, her eyes, like those of many

women, were caught by an

alive-skinned England centre sprinting silkily through the

At a banking dinner she

found herself sitting with Jer-

emy Guscott's lawyer. Guscott had mentioned to him.

that he was looking for an

agent because the commercial demands on him were more

than England's Playervision

could or would want to cope

with. Pedro has acted for him since then, and she also has

lequins' Frenchmen Laurent

Cabannes and Laurent Béné-

zech among the pop stars and celebrities on her client list.

Now the floodgates are open

but any player basking in being paid to play for the first time and sitting back waiting

for superstar fame and for-tune to fall into his lap is in

for a rude awakening.
'True, there will be oppor-

tunities for players to enjoy nationwide recognition and

the wealth that goes with it. I

a result of his on-pitch activi-

Anyone who dismisses the

Underwood, Jonathan

Steve Ojomoh and Har-

ers. Forced by her sport-

Definitely.

the rock star Peter Gabriel. In her self-made role as business, commercial, PR and financial adviser she has al-ways had her eyes on the main chance. And, eyes glint-

ARIA PEDRO E businesswho

wants a slice of the biggest cake

of a new breed of

PR adviser who make household

ance in Dublin. Towards the end the Islanders, among whom Tuigamala was outstanding, were still pressing frantically for further scores. It was difficult to tell whether the Irish players, who were already on a \$20,000 basic and \$3,000 match fee each, were inhibited by the added prospect of a £1,000 win bonus. Certainly the Samoans

made their aggressive inten-tions abundantly clear before the kick-off when their big lock Leavasa made heavy con-tact with Richard Wallace's face during the Islanders' ver-sion of the haka. From the outset the Irish defence was in complete dis-

Thus invited, the Samoans made a flying start with a made a flying start with a long-range try due to a couple of superb miss-passes by the scrum-half Filemu and the full-back Patn. The diminutive wing So'oalo took possession gleefully and sprinted 60 metres to score without an Irishman in clott Irishman in sight. Encouraged by the frequent aps in the Irish midfield, the

Samoans scored a second salmoans scored a second splendidly worked try in the 15th minute, the industrious Tuigamala releasing the centre Leanpepe on a straight run through to the posts which left Va's with a simple conversion.

Retweet the straight beach Mason kept Ireland notion-

First lady of the marketing maul

moans' admirable spirit of ers ball-watching in the midenterprise in only their field and neglecting to cover second international appear- the flanks. tackle. But Mason failed to pot two other penalties whereas the precise Va'a landed a 30-metre effort to make it 15-6. Within the half-hour came

the Samoans' third try, to roars of acclamation mixed with hoots of derision direc-ted at the Irish team. After Tuigamala had barged his way down the left flank the ball was swept infield to the No. 8 Feaumati who rolled a No. 8 resuman who rough a half-hearted tackle before lay-ing off a short pass to Vaega. The Samoan centre cantered through unimpeded to touch down to the left of the posts. Near half-time Lam made a

two penalty goals but Va'a countered with a second penalty and his side turned round 25-12 up. Ireland's recovery hopes were swiftly damaged when Va'a kicked another penalty

for offside whereas Mason failed with a comparable effort. Eventually Mason did rediscover his line and range, potting a couple from outside the box, but Patu sealed Ire-land's fate with a nicely judged grubber kick which he touched down just before the ball ran dead. Wallace's try was little and far too late and in any case Vaega then scored his side's fifth try. Mason kept Ireland notion magnificent try-saving tackle scored his side's fifth try. ally in touch with a couple of on his opposing flanker Cor. • The Harlequins pair Lau-

Filemu . . . flying start

rent Cabannes and Laurent Bénézech have been overlooked by France for the first Test against South Africa in Bordeaux on November 30.

Whelan, a former honorary president of the rugby league chub and once their major sponsor, made his offer last week, with the promise of a further £7 million to develop central Park into a modern stadium to be shared by the league and soccer clubs. "We promised our share-holders that they will be the

O'Connor and Simon Haughton, may miss the Box-ing Day challenge match with St Helens at Central Park. nied selling their Central Park stadium O'Connor, who recently returned from the Great Britto Dave Whelan, the owner of Wigan Athletic soccer club, for £4 million. No such deciain tour to New Zealand, will have a groin operation today. Haughton had similar sur-gery last week and both playsion had been taken, said their chairman Jack Robinson, and nor would it be until

gery last week and both play-ers may be out for six weeks.

Wigan, worried about los-ing money, have cancelled their trip to New Zealand, where they were due to play the Auckland Warriors at Auckland and Christchurch on January 11 and 18 on January 11 and 18.

Leeds may be known as the Leopards, Rhinos or Knights next season. Leeds City Pan-thers also has a ring to it, but whatever suffix is adopted will be the majority choice of the club's supporters.

"We have been delighted with the response from the fans," said the club's media manager Stuart Duffy. "Al-most all the suggestions have

been positive."

The number of clubs in the first round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup has been increased from 36 to 72, includ-ing all 36 National Conference clubs and six from each of the

Cricket

Adams succeeds

where Lara fails

IMMY ADAMS, who made 57, and the wicket-keeper Courtney Browne work of Sri Lanka's total of (50) prompted West Indies to a 48-run victory over a North-ern Territory Invitation XI in Alice Springs yesterday. They put on 98 for the sixth wicket as West Indies made 218 for

spinner Mark Hatton took three for 24 from 10 overs including the wicket, for 27, of Brian Lara, who returned to the West Indies side after sitting out a three-day match against Western Australia

last weekend. The Western Australia wickstkeeper Adam Gilchrist, who led the invitation side, improved his chances of Test

Africa pace bowlers election for Australia with an unbeaten 64. Kenny Benjamin was the most effective West Indies bowler with three

beaten century in the Singer Champions Trophy in Sharjah gave Pakistan victory over Sri Lanka by eight wick-ets and earned them a place in the final of the three-nation

competition. Anwar, who hit 112 from

work of Sri Lanka's total of 189. The pair put on 171 for the first wicket in 39.1 overs to leave the world champions in danger of missing Friday's final, Anwar's knock — his 11th one-day century — fol-lowed his 104 against New as West Indies made and to eight from their 50 overs before dismissing the hosts for The win gave Pakistan four three matches

and even if they lose to New Zealand in today's last roundrobin game they are through to the final.

Sri Lanka headed the table on run-rate before yesterday's defeat but now they can qual-ify for the final only if New Zealand lose to Pakistan and

In Cochin, India, the South Africa pace bowlers Allan demolished Karnataka for the second time to inflict a 244 run defeat on the Ranji Trophy champions. Karnataka, set an improbable victory target of 362 on the third and final day, were bundled out for 117 in 205 minutes. Donald's three for 29 gave

him seven wickets in the match and Klusener's three for 32 took his tally to eight. The last six Karnataka wick-125 balls, and Aamir Sohail, ets tumbled for 32.

Ice Hockey

Struggling Storm go Dutch to strengthen their defence

Vic Batchelder

ANCHESTER Storm half of the Superleague, have strengthened their squad by signing the Dutch-Canadian defenceman Bart Vanstaalduinen, who began the season with Lillehammer in the Nor-

wegian league. The 24-year-old played in Norway as an import, said Storm's manager John Lawess. "He has just received his Dutch passport and was sought by many clubs throughout Europe. He is a strong two-way defencema who can support offensively.

The 6ft 2in player spent the past four years on a scholar-ship at Michigan State Uni-versity, where he was team

will play at Nottingham on Saturday. The Panthers owner Charles Walker yesterday criticised the administration

last season. Lawless hopes he

of the Superleague, of which he is a part as a club owner and a director of Ice Hockey Superleague Limited. He is upset that the disci-plinary findings after a violent incident during a game

between Nottingham and Cardiff last month have kep changing. Cardiff's Marty Yewchuk. for instance, has seen a £1,000

fine reduced to £60 after he threatened legal action. At the same time the Nottingham coach Mike Blaisdell's verbal warning escalated to a two-game suspension and a 160 games and was voted de-fensive Defenceman of the not be paying." Walker said.

England beware Dominguez Fresh money offer in clubs dispute as **Trish** welcome back Wood

TALY's captain, the Milan prop Massimo Cuttitta, has passed a fitness test on his injured thigh and leads the 21man squad named yesterday for Saturday week's Twicken-

ham international. The back-row forward Coran absence of five years but hit 17 months which impressed on a raw Dublin day. The hooker, now in storming the ho Wales found Milan's Argentine-born stand-off in typically lethal kicking form last month when he scored all but five of his side's points as Italy were besten 31–22 in Royazzolo, P Vaccari, A Samutin. Cowi. Gladid, J Perile, M Gournall.

Ireland A beat their South Africa counterparts 28-25 yesterday as the sides shared six rries in a physical match at Donnybrook, two coming from the Irish wing Conor O'Shea. But it was the captain Keith Wood's return to the wearing rado Covi wins a recall after of the green after an injury-

WICKENHAM has made an improved offer to the clubs in eagues One and Two in an attempt to end its year-long dispute with the senior

clubs. The Rugby Football

Union has suggested a payout of £10 million in 1998, on top of the £8 million it has offered this year and the £10 million for 1997. The 24 top clubs have also heen offered two places on the 18-strong RFU executive committee. If plans go ahead to form a 12-man management board to over-see the game, the clubs will

offer their "approval in principle", and Nottingham of League Two have already done so. The clubs' represen-tative body, English Profes-sional Rugby Union Clubs, is meeting in Northampton today and RFU officials will

be waiting to explain details

of their proposals. Meanwhile, Five Nations organisers yesterday promised to avoid a repeat of the sort out this problem and fixture chaos that has protect the players." blighted the game's first full professional season. They hope that from next September the season's cal-

tomorrow as a deadline to international, club and provincial flatures throughout

> European structure where-by club matches and internationals would be played on the same dates in each country," said Roger Picker-ing, the Five Nations' chief executive. "Some tough choices will have to be made but it is important that we

representative calls on play-

again when Ireland play Italy on January 4. A fortnight later the start

PHOTOGRAPH; KIPPA MATTHEWS

way. "Yes, you come up

against barriers but you do in

any walk of life. But it can

work to your advantage. You get attention because you are

not just another man in a

suit. It goes both ways."
If footballers ignore her, she says, it might be to their

been professional for years, their commercial ideas need

bucking up, especially now the appeal is so much wider.

Their affairs are usually run

by ex-players who, if they

have come up through the

youth system, have never seen anything outside the club. That is no good. They

are still in the dark ages when

it comes to selling, despite the

fact that everyone knows a club like Manchester United

makes more from merchan dising than gate sales.

"They need someone with marketing and financial expe-

rience who can see the oppor-tunities but has the sensitivity

to deal with the sometimes dif-

ficult temperaments in sport.

"Sport is big business and has to be run as big business

and both rugby union and

soccer will have to wake up or

founder. Why is it assumed a

good player will be a good

manager? It's time people came in from outside."

"Although soccer has

of this season's Five Nations Championship --in which Ireland play France in Dublin and Scotland meet Wales in Edinburgh — will coincide with a Saturday of English League One fixtures.
The Northampton coach

Ian McGeechan accused the Irish RFU of "all take and no give" when they insisted on players reporting by noon last Thursday to train for yesterday's game

Team talk

The independent news and reports service 0891 33 77+

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CALLS COST 50P PER MAN MICHAELER, BAN

The Guardian CINTERACTIVE



femme fatale . . . Pedro is unfazed that Guscott, left, was recently dropped by England. 'He's not on the way out'

44-year-old divorcee as simply a woman who fancies sur-rounding herself with good-looking men would be doing her a severe disservice. Her reed thin figure and exotic South American/Nigerian/ European looks belie a ruthless nature and she doesn't in-dulge her clients, however

"No, no," she says, waving a manicured hand. "I can't do anything for them if they don't perform well on the field. Some people rushed off into promoting themselves as playing side." She pauses menacingly. "To their cost. Whoever said it's not about winning but about taking

part was talking nonsense."

Pedro is unfazed that Guscott was recently dropped by England's manager Jack Rowell. "It's not a problem and I think the sports press agree that Jack Rowell has made a mistake. That aside, the way Jerry has handled it makes him an even more exciting prospect for me. It's been a dif-ficult time but he has behaved "He's not on the way out.

won't bandy figures around but Will Carling did pretty well even in the previous era. Mind you, he was the captain of the national side who will always be a household name and not all the interest was as ties. For most players this kind of attention and attached wealth will not be on the Rob Andrew had to deal with it when he was dropped in favour of Stuart Barnes and agenda. Soccer is the country's No. 1 sport but how many players have made it as he came back stronger than ever. Will Carling too came real household names? Cantona, Giggs, Gascoigne, Lin-eker. That's it really."

matically marketable. I look | he would be ideal to play in | some players are still blink- | misogyny encountered on the for the USP, the unique sell-ing point. Jerry had flair, style and good looks but was also articulate, engaging and a brilliant player. Ben [Clarke, a client during his days at Bath] too was very marketable; attractive physi-cally and personally, and one of the first of the new breed of

mobile forwards. "Marketing a sportsman is the same as marketing any of my clients, from Raymond

have to find a USP and exploit

it. But some people don't have one, they are as bland as

supermarket own brands and I can do nothing with them. There are a few characters

I'll be looking at over the next few years. The one I'm after

now is Olivier Roumat. Who-

ever got him to play in Eng-

land could name their price.

umusual but perfect market-ing opportunities is that she

Josh Kronfeld is another.

pantomime. Since his first panto in 1991 he's been in demand every yea Another client, Tony

Underwood, appeared with his brother Rory and the All Black giant Jonah Lomu in probably the first TV adver-tisement that featured rugby union - for Pizza Hut. Union players are now used as a sport-related store promo-tions, and Kyran Bracken is

Blanc to Peter Gabriel. You enjoying some fame as a pin-

ered as to their obligations.
"Millions of pounds are people don't do that for from Sir John Hall, Ashley Levett and Frank Warren are not collecting rugby players like a philatelist collects stamps. They want a return in profit. "The public too will have

demands. They see these guys getting paid for what they do

and their expectations will be raised. Players' private lives will come under scrutiny like never before. Sport is big business and has to be run as such. Rugby union and

soccer must wake up or founder' up, his disrobed body featuring in magazines for women and teenage girls.

Guscott has a secondary career in TV presenting. With some sportsmen able to earn £40,000 a year talking about their sport at dinners and functions, the financial opportunities could be endless for the few who capture the public imagination. But Pedro has a warning for the new breed of professionals: they are paid to play, and A measure of her eye for

"Rugby players have by and large had a good relationship with the press because they have only really had to deal with the reporters who

cover matches and sportrelated news stories. But now the tabloids will be snapping at their heels and it won't just be for stories involving the royal family."
This is something clubs will

have to be aware of now that rugby is no longer the private domain of the gentleman and ex-public school boy.

Pedro is also picking over the potential in England's national sport. Another lucky invitation to dinner landed her next to Ian Rioch, brother of Bruce, who needed help with the business affairs of Liverpool's Jason McAteer

back stronger than ever, as Jerry will. That's my belief and his belief too. "A great player is not auto"A great player is not auto"A great player is not auto"A great player is not auto"Ing opportunities is that she they are paid to play, and thought they are paid not to play and Alan Stubbs of Celtic, so she added them to her list. "This is not a hobby any they are paid to play, and though and Alan Stubbs of Celtic, so she added them to her list. "This is not a hobby any they are paid not to play and Alan Stubbs of Celtic, so she added them to her list. "This is not a hobby any they are paid not to play and Alan Stubbs of Celtic, so she added them to her list. She wants to spread her net eyes fixed on the middle distance.

The clubs have been given | endar will co-ordinate | ers, and the problem looms

Britain and France. "We are looking at a pan-

Half of last weekend's Courage League One pro-gramme was wiped out by

Sports Guardian'

BETTING

This man thought he had won £259,200. The bookies said no. Yesterday it was left to a paper to arbitrate. The Sporting Life sided with Coral

Luke Harding on the bet of a lifetime that may soon see Coral in court

N A dimly lit casino in Cardiff, Terry O'Callaghan waited to see the result of his home-town team Barry's Uefa Cup match in Aberdeen That afternoon he had placed \$50 in accumulator bets with Coral on the result of four football games. With Barry's 3-1 defeat, he got them all right

them all right.
Still reeling from his good fortune, he celebrated with champagne as the casino manchampagne as the cashlo man-ager totted up his winnings on a calculator. They came to £259,200. It was, or so he thought, the "bet of a lifetime". But yesterday an indepen-dent panel ruled in favour of the Righ Street betting chain. which had refused to pay out.
The manager of the shop in
Hayes, Cardiff, where the bet
was placed on September 10,
had failed to photograph the
betting slip when it was
handed over the counter, normally a routine procedure in
betting shops across Britain. betting shops across Britain. Coral consequently decided

the wager was null and void and curtly informed the 52-year-old O'Callaghan by letter he was not going to be paid. O'Callaghan, a watercolour artist, appealed to the time-honoured Green Seal Service run by the Sporting Life newspaper, and even enlisted the support of 31 MPs who put

down an early-day motion urging Coral to pay up.
But yesterday the quasi-judicial Green Seal panel, which traditionally arbitrates

tated," said O'Callaghan yesterday. "There is no natural justice. The bet was placed fair and square. The manager

messed the bet up."
He added: "When I won, it to go into Cardiff and were in a casino when we got the results at 10.45pm. The manager came over with champagne. It was the bet of a life time. They don't come often." But, while O'Callaghan was calling for what he sees as natural justice, the Green Seal panel upheld Coral's right to declare the bet void in strict accordance with the

bookmakers' rules. The decision said: "The pass the coupon through the the bet to the monitoring shop procedures which the company could not have prevented. It is therefore the nanel's view that Coral ... cannot rensonably be held respon-sible for them."

O'Callaghan, who describes himself as a "substantial, reg-ular punter", is taking legal



Today a worthless slip of paper . . . Cardiff punter Terry O'Callaghan displays the £259,200 correct-score betting coupon that Coral has declared void

it the centre of the affair, Ron Chivers, is off work with tress. Coral's spokesman night: "We are obviously en couraged that the Sporting Life has recognised we were

right to declare this bet void."
The punter had placed two £25 correct-score accumulato bets. In one bet he forecast Barry 3-1 and Newcastle best Halmstade 4-0, both Uefa Cup matches, with Colchester de leating Brighton 2-0 and Scarborough edging Doncaster -1. They all did.

It is general practice among bookmakers to treat bets which have not been photo-graphed as vold unless there are good reasons for regarding them as bona fide. Book makers regard the camera film as an essential elemen in their security system as it guarantees a betting slip has not been completed after an event has taken place.

• Labour's Tony Banks, who signed the early-day motion, said: "Coral are bad losers and I think people who place bets should remember this."

gruntled punters and the betting powers-that-be, ruled in favour of Coral. "I'm absolutely devas"I'm absolutely devasThe betting-shop manager The betting-shop manager

Graham Rock explains why a newspaper | Hart, formerly secretary to | adjudicate both on dispanel is the punter's last court of appeal

makers in dispute over bets not involving horse racing have no alternative but to rely on arbitration behalf, pambling debts have not been recoverable under British law. The Gaming Act of 1842

made all contracts by way of wagering null and void. Before then wagers of £10 or more were enforceable.
At that time — and indeed until 1994 — the Jockey Club ran racing. Behind the scenes, friends of the club lobbled Westminster and the 1842 Act was passed retrospectively to head off a total of 68 legal actions which could have cost club

members a potential 2500,000. In the following year a

UNTERS and book-) warned off by the Jockey Ciub but fought back, pro-ducing a list of 30 defaulters, the majority being club members. Russell, victim of an attempt to clean up racing, then went to the courts to embarrass those who had punished him. He sued Lord George Bentinck, the club's senior steward, for

£12,000 at the Guildford The present Government has made it clear that it does not intend to change the law, and attempts by lobby groups representing ounters have not got off the

Yesterday's adjudication came from the Sporting Life's Green Seal Service. The paper would not say who was on the panel other than that they were "bet-ting experts". However, the

The only betting enforce-able by law is spread betting. This accounts for only a small percentage of gam-bling turnover, and the companies involved are strictly regulated by the Securities and Futures

Companies that offer spread betting can sue de-faulters, and the operators themselves can be pursued through the courts for outstanding debts.

Prospective clients must provide detailed proof of their ability to meet an agreed credit limit, while the spread-betting book-makers are required to tion of their potential losses with a central body. Horse racing disputes are

settled by Tattersalls' Com-mittee, which is funded by the British Horseracing Board but reports to the Russell was panel is headed by Emma Jockey Club. The members

Players with the right stuff for power



Jim White

RIME Minister Imran it has a ring to it. Al-most as much as First Lady Jemima. After four years pretending he wasn't interested, was just teen to do his bit for charity, build his hospital and joust with oiks in the High Court, publicly, admitted he wants to be leader of Pakistan.

In a flurry of cricketing met-aphors, he has pitched himself into the sticky wicket of electioneering, running in with an anti-corruption action, which, Shane Warne and his mates in the Australian cricket squad would be quick to point out. for the average Pakistan cap-tain at first glance is not un-like Gazza campaigning on

the battered wives ticket. But this is the point, Imran is renowned in his homeland for succeeding at the one task reckoned there to be impossi-ble. In 1992 be turned a bunch of in fighting, self-absorbed prima donnas who comprised the Pakistan cricket team, some of whom were suspected by many of their supporters not to be making a sufficient effort in certain matches because it might interfere with their personal betting portfo-

lice, into a side that won the cricket World Cup. He took on the sparring factions and made them not just work together but beat the shrewd diplomacy Boutros Boutros Ghali would kill to achieve. If he could do that with Javed and the lads, Imran wants the voters to believe, leading the country would be as easy as bowling to John Major in a charity game. As an idea, Imran's is not as

preposterous as it sounds. Why should a man who has Those ordered to settle have the right to appeal the triumphed so conspicuously in international sport be any less qualified for the highest office than someone who has succeeded in business, say. the law, or, in Pakistan's case the army? Why might he not transfer his skills? As a cricket captain Imran was dy-Given the long history of namic, imaginative and above all clean: all the prerequisites his country searches for in a leader after the Benazir years. Indeed Imran is not the only per cent of net profit will be forfeited to defaulters. aspirant politician reminding

the voters of his past as a

sporting hero these past few weeks. In the US elections Jack Kemp, Senator Dole's running mate, playing a long game for the year 2000, spent the latter stages of the cam-paign distancing himself from his senior partner and plant-ing the idea that having once been a quarterback of some pre-eminence qualifies him for the White House next time round; after all, as a means of raising a country's self-es teem, being good at games is more significant than being a

canny negotiator in the public spending round. Which makes you think: if which makes you think. Is sports hero as candidate is that good a political marketing concept, who in this country might be groomed for the transition from playing field to Parliament? We have some limited precedent here: Christopher Chataway and Seb Coe both ran themselves into Westminster. And, though it is debatable whether having once sat at the back of a boat while eight blokes sweated themselves into an early grave strictly qualifies him as a sporisman, Colin Moynihan even steered him-self towards a ministerial

portfolio These, however, were not men touched with sufficient affection in the public heart to make high office.

UT what an election-winning Cabinet from former British sporting heroes: Lester Piggott at the Treasury, half the Arsenal squad at the Ministry of Health preaching the bene-fits of abstinence, Jack Charlton at Agriculture leading our negotiating team at the Com-mon Fisheries summit. Nigel Benn, a battered national monument in urgent need of patching up, would be at hom at the Heritage department, Vinnie Jones could sort out law and order at the Home Office, and, particularly if Imran gets voted in, it would liven up Commonwealth Conferences no end to appoint Ian Botham Foreign Secretary. Prime Minister would be a

trickier position to fill, how ever. The Imran model would presuppose a world champion. which, in Britain's case, narrows the choice down to a cou-ple of small bores and a coxess pair. But if we widen the net to those connected with sport who quickened the national pulse, lifted the col-lective chin and put a patriotic spring in the step even if, ultimately, it ended in tears, then the field is clear. Step forward, in the first dual leadership of the country since William and Mary, David Baddiel and

Guardian Crossword No 20,809

Set by Janus

nd layer on the nature or

size of a bet struck, and on

those cases in which one or

other of the parties has not settled to the satisfaction of

Jockey Club, but if they

lose and fail to meet their

obligations within a desig-

nated period they are "warned off" and banned

betting, bookmakers are

aware of the inevitability of

bad debts and all budgets are constructed in the

knowledge that about 10

from British racecourses.

the other.

Home win marks new Henman work ethic

Stephen Blerley in Telford

HE Tim Henman road show, otherwise known as the Guardian Direct Nationals, opened in Telford yesterday with Britain's No. 1. after three successive first-round international defeats, rediscovering the road to success on the home front. Very nice to win seain." he

Henman, having reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon and risen to a high of No. 25 in the world rankings recently, had lost to Stefan Edberg of Sweden, Spain's Carlos Moya and Zimbabwe's Byron Black in quick succession at ATP tournaments

Berkshire's Greg Saffery, a national training next year qualifier, mustered as much and yesterday signalled his resistance as possible, man hope of taking the country's aged one break of serve in the leading 3-0, and was finally beaten 6-1, 6-2 in 50 unremarkable minutes.

With both Henman and Greg Rusedski, who will begin his challenge today, in als almost strutted on to its Shropshire stage this year. The Industrial Revolution had its roots in nearby Ironbridge and the success of Henman in particular has set in motion a feeling of imminent progress and change within the British game.

Jeremy Bates, who for a decade carried the cross of do-

best young players to a train-ing camp in Florida where they would get the chance to play against Henman and

"When I was young I played learn there is no magical secret to success, you just have to work hard," said Henman, who admitted that his the result of insufficient fitness and stamina.

He has reached six semi-fin als this year and knows he has to train harder and more consistently, His coach, David Felgate, who has relinquished certain LTA involvements to mestic expectations, will as-sume responsibility for men's tournaments, will make sure

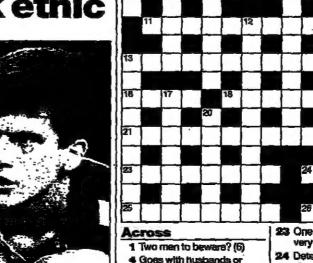
a daily routine is pursued with vigour. The British No. 1 also intends playing more doubles next year and is cur-rently negotiating to partner Holland's Jan Sieme

The optimism that has is considerably less apparent on the women's side of the net. Britain has no one in the world top 100 and yesterday the No. 1 seed, Sam Smith, struggled to beat the Kent beenager Abigail Tordoff 2-6, 7-5, 6-3.

and former British No. 1 Rachel Viollet, the daughter of Manchester United's Fifties star Dennis, Viollet, who lives and trains in the United States, went out 6-4, 6-4 against Surrey's Lorna Woodroffe.

Henman . . . more training





4 Goes with husbands or

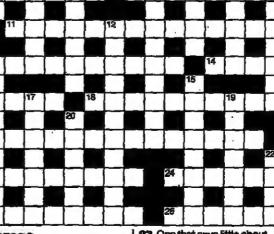
9,5 Herdy cyster back on the menu? (6,2,3,5)

10 Point time-server put on garden implement (8) 11 Plead guilty, as Harrods doorman may do on sales day? (5,3,6)

13 Unreasonable share in rail deployment (10) 14 Make a new part for an actor (4)

16 Uniform for night before first might (4) 18 Road with siniste associations for governments (10)

21 Packed or unpacked, whichever is applicable (2.3,4,3,2)



23 One that says little about 24 Determined old soldier should be taken in (6)

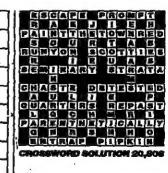
25 Study forepart of beard (8) 26 Writer who liked to maintain high temperature? (6)

Down 1 Kind of cakes or tarts (4) 2 Does he turn to drama in the

ring? (7) 3 Answer to blockades if trials turn out (8)

E See 9 Across 6 Triffing show of neglect (6) 7 Compunction concerning detective (7)

8 Striped cloth-workers (9) 12 It could inflict a severe tanning on a culorit's form (8.3) 13 A client is somewhat



15 Horizontal upright (8)

17 Become a rail passe violent rainstorm (7) 19 Violent imuption during tea: Interval (7) 20 Moderate fit of anger (5)

22 Coloured ring round flower **Bolution tomorrow**

TStuck? Then est our solutions line on 0891.339 239. Calls nost 50p per minute Mon-Fri. 8am-8pm, and 45p per minute at all other times. Service supplied by ATS.



As an upstanding member of Pakistani society, your husband is bound to be supportive (although you did say that if the baby was more than two days late you would have to be induced to fit in with his busy schedule).

An open letter to Jemima Goldsmith

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